Dark Star

for mixed voices
S. A. T. B. a cappella

text and music
by

Lee McClure

the text:

Dark Star

Life lives
In the middle of the night
In memories casting shadows
Of a time that rushed foward
Against the invisible walls
Flashing past the Blind
Who could feel, riding under them,
The wave of joy in a broad crest
That curls over knowledge's reef
And runs up the sand
Sliding to the left before
Slipping counterclockwise back
Through crystalline fathoms
Down to where finally
The silence, which slowly
Bending the course of time
Against changing currents
Eludes everything but the
Rising of a dark star
whose
Warning of a twilight
that will
Only too quickly fold
into the
Dawn of day breaking
through the
Surface as it disperses
the
Last shadows remaining
Which now being absorbed
Give a slight shimmer
to the
Dappled morning light
Sparsely spreading across the
floor of my room.

This I carry out into the day
For as long as I can,
'Til life lets us join again
Far beyond
The end.

DARK STAR – Text by Lee McClure

As altered for the score
for chorus or quartet, S,A,T,B

Life lives
In the middle of the night
In memories casting shadows of a time
In memories, in memories, in memories
Casting shadows of a time

That rushed forward, rushed forward,
Rushed forward, rushed forward
Against the invisible walls
That were flashing past the blind
Forward against the walls

Against, against the invisible walls
That were flashing past the blind who could,
The blind who could feel riding
Under them the time that rushed
In memories – feel the time that rushed
Against the walls flashing past
The blind in memories that
Rushed forward, rushed forward

Against the invisible walls
Rushed forward
Against the invisible walls
Flashing past the blind who could feel
Riding under them

Under them the wave of joy
In a broad crest
That curls over knowledge's reef and
Runs, runs up the sand
Sliding, sliding, sliding

Counterclockwise back through crystal,
Crystal, crystal, crystal
Back through crystalline fathoms
Down to where, to where, down to where
Where finally

The silence –
Which slowly bending –
The course of time –
Against changing currents –

The silence – the silence eludes –
Everything –
But the rising of a dark star

Whose warning of a twilight
The silence of a dark star
Eludes everything – whose warning –
But the rising of a twilight
The silence that will
Of a dark star eludes everything
Only too quickly – eludes
But the rising of a twilight

Fold into everything that will -
The dawn of a dark star
But the rising . . . whose warning
Warning of a dark star . . .
That will — breaking, breaking
Fold into the dawn of day

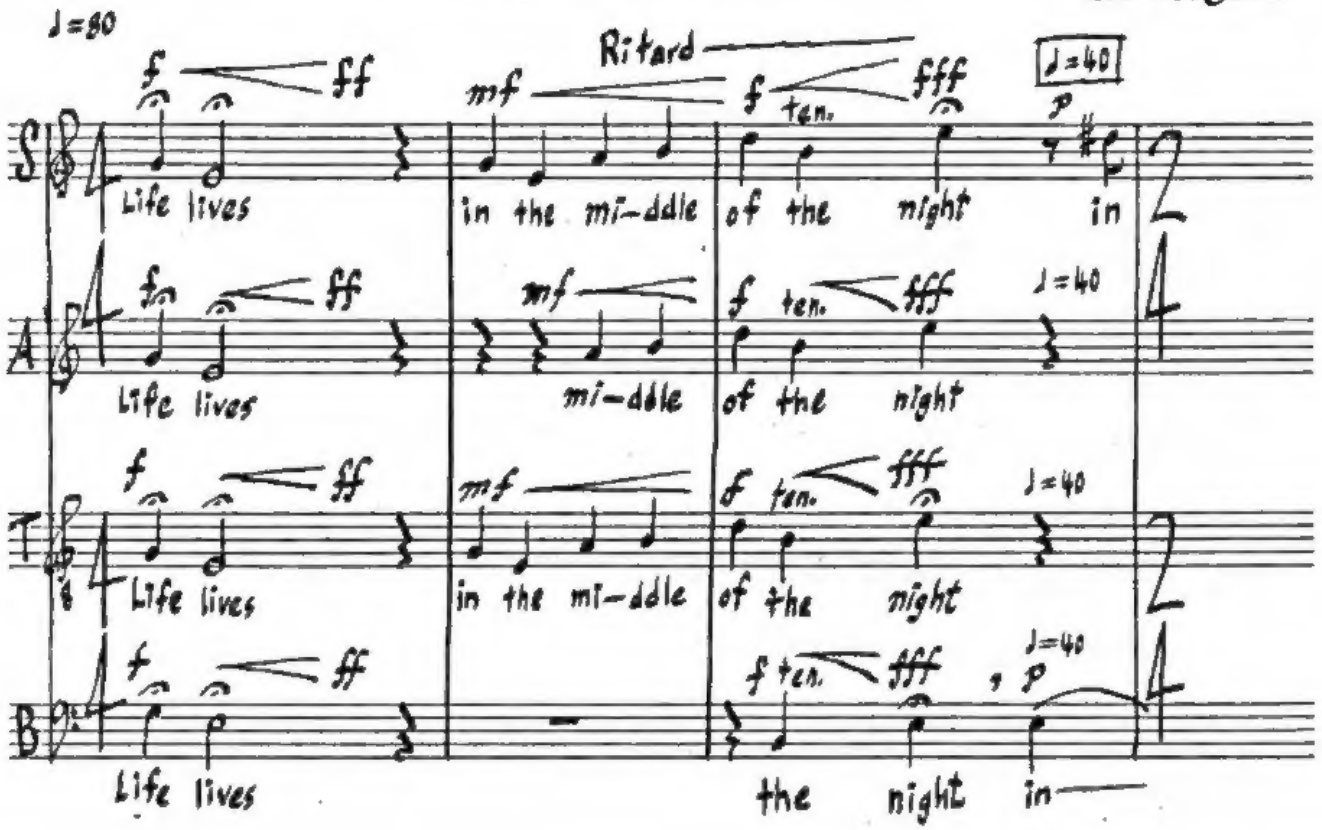
Breaking, breaking through the
Surface - as it disperses - - -
The last shadows remaining
Which now – being absorbed
Which now – give a slight shimmer
Give a slight shimmer to

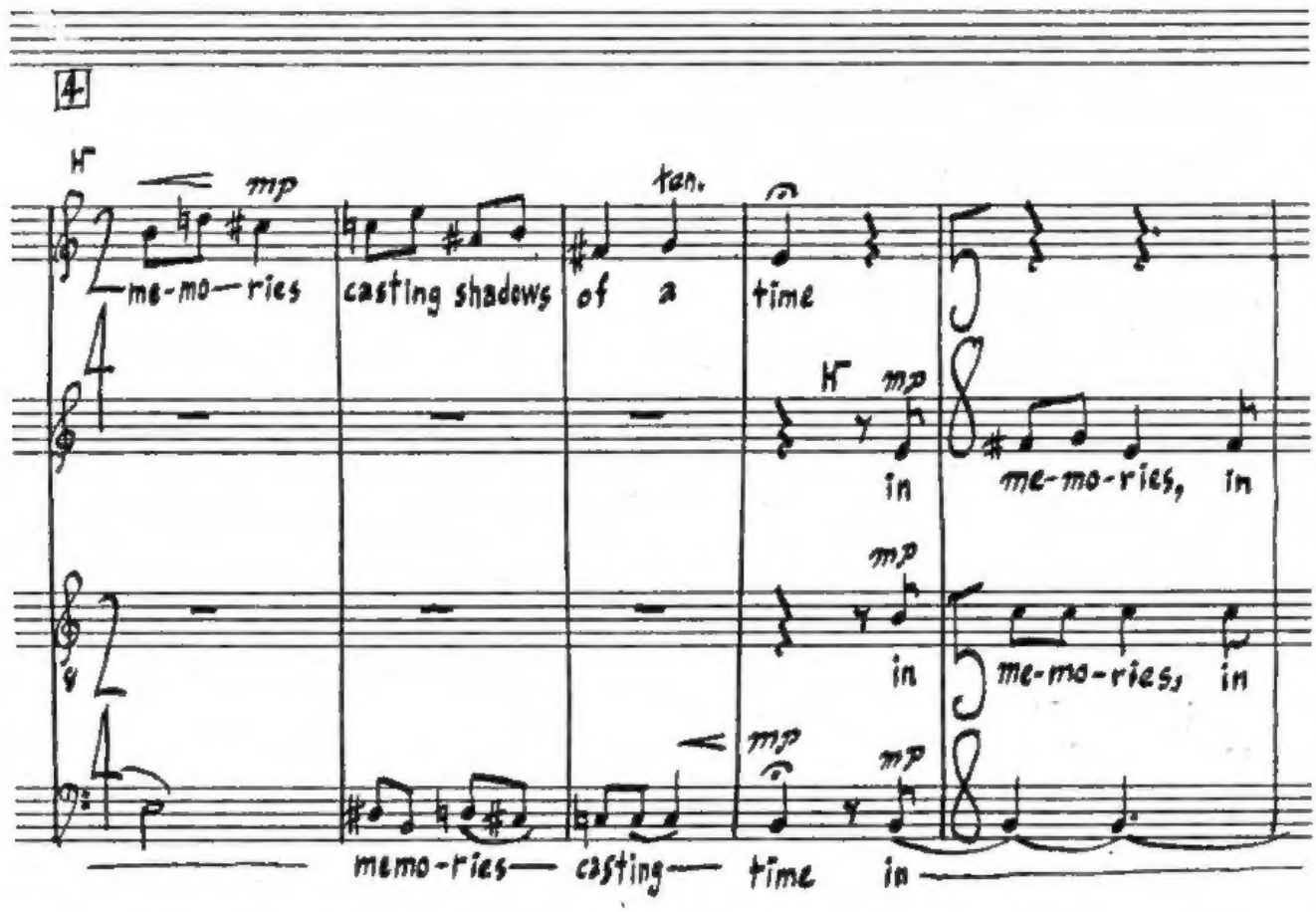
To the dappled morning light
Dappled morning light . . .
Sparsely spreading across –
Dappled morning light
Sparsely spreading across
The floor of my room
The dappled morning light

This I carry out
In to the day
For as long
As I can
Till life
Lets us join again
Far beyond
The End

Dark Star

text & music
Lee McClure





Note: in all meter changes, ♪=♪

2c/c

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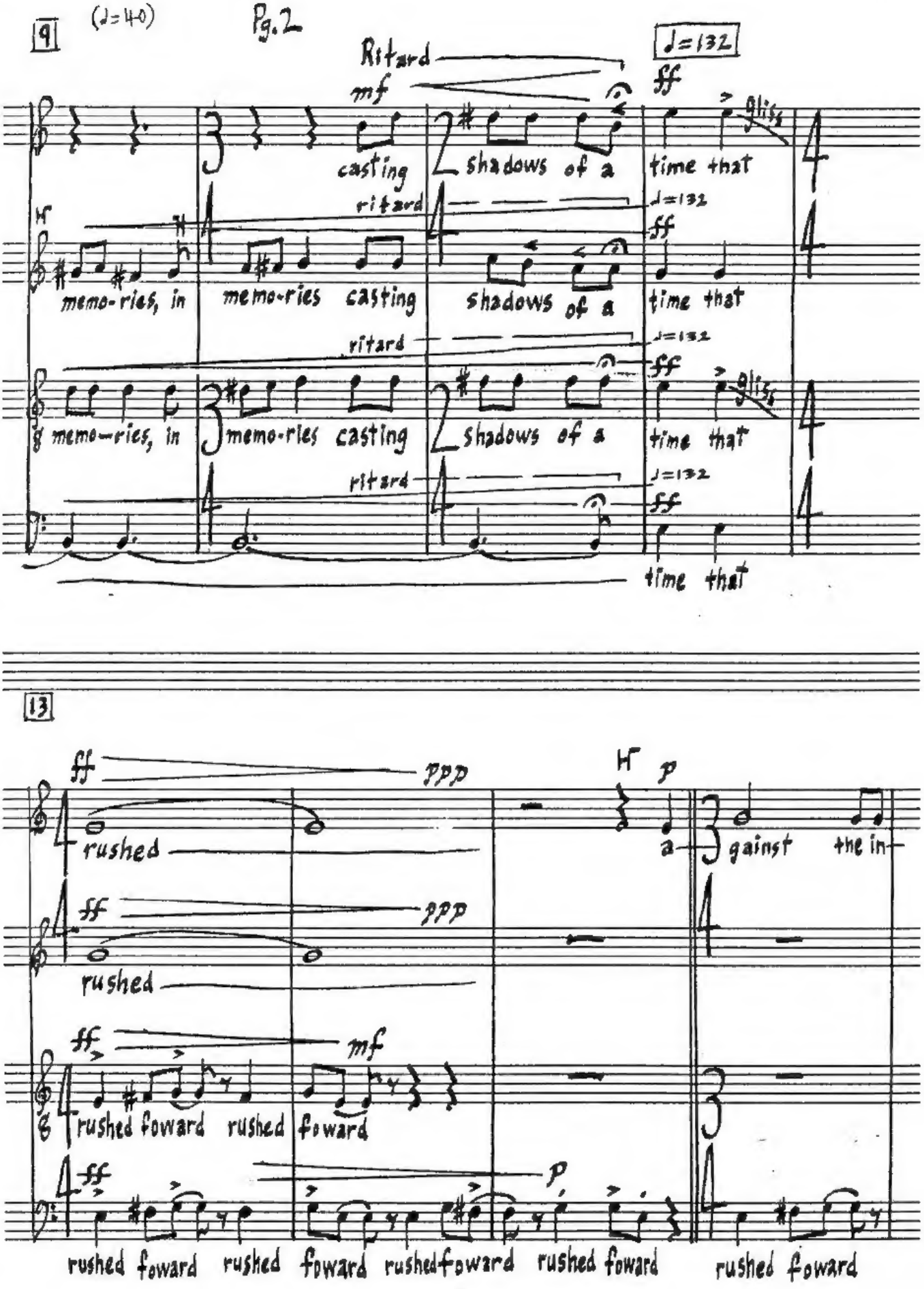
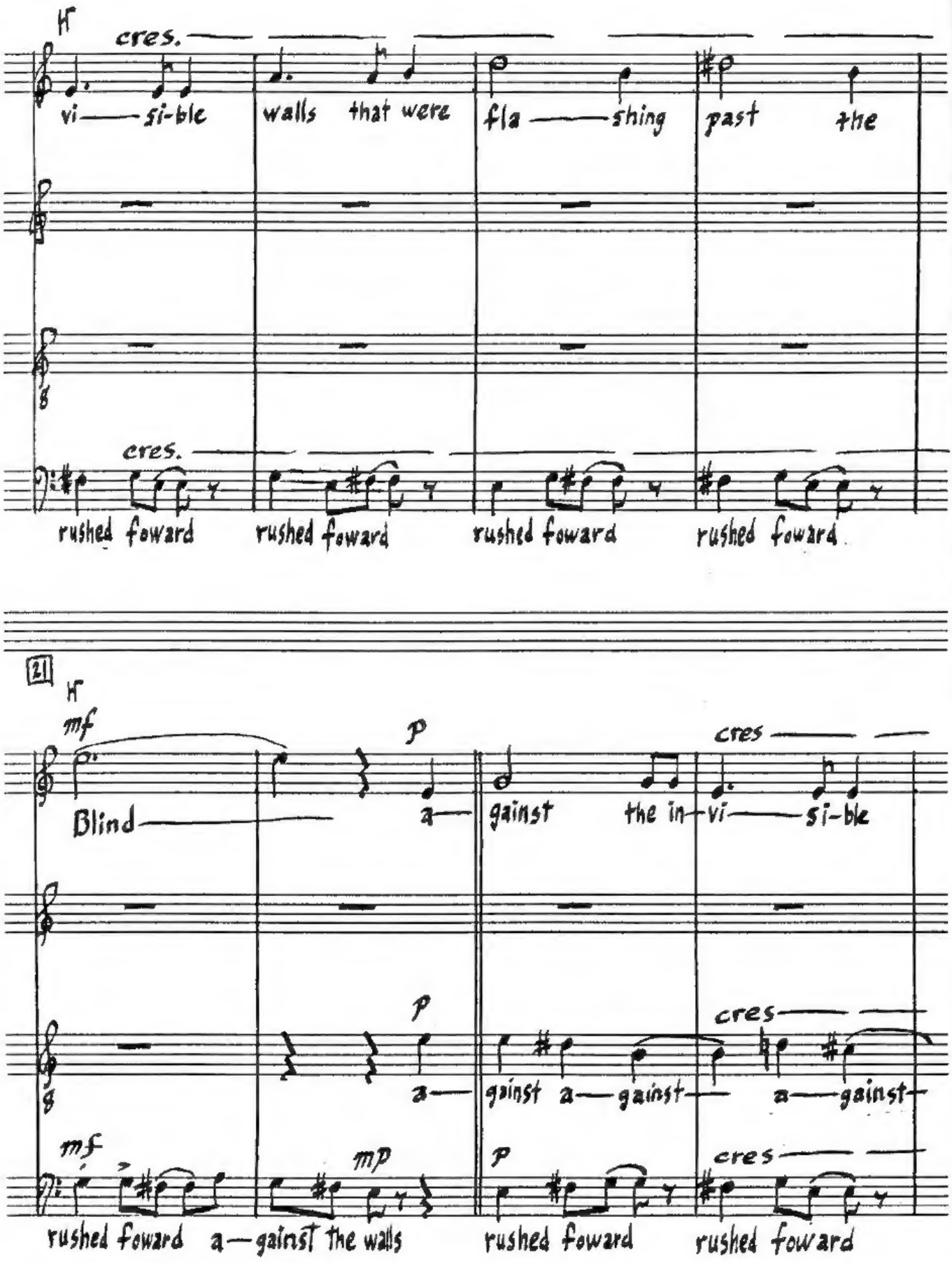

9
(♩=40)
Ritard
mf
♩=132
ff
casting
shadows of a
time that
gliss
H
memo-ries, in
memo-ries casting
shadows of a
time that
ritard
13
ppp
H
p
rushed
a
gainst
the in
mf
rushed foward rushed foward
rushed foward rushed foward rushed foward rushed foward


17
(♩=132)
H
cres.
vi—si-ble walls that were fla—shing past the
cres.
rushed foward rushed foward rushed foward rushed foward
21
H
mf
p
cres
Blind— a— gainst the in—vi—si-ble
p
cres
a— gainst a—gainst— a—gainst
mf
mp
p
cres
rushed foward a—gainst the walls rushed foward rushed foward

25 (♩=132)

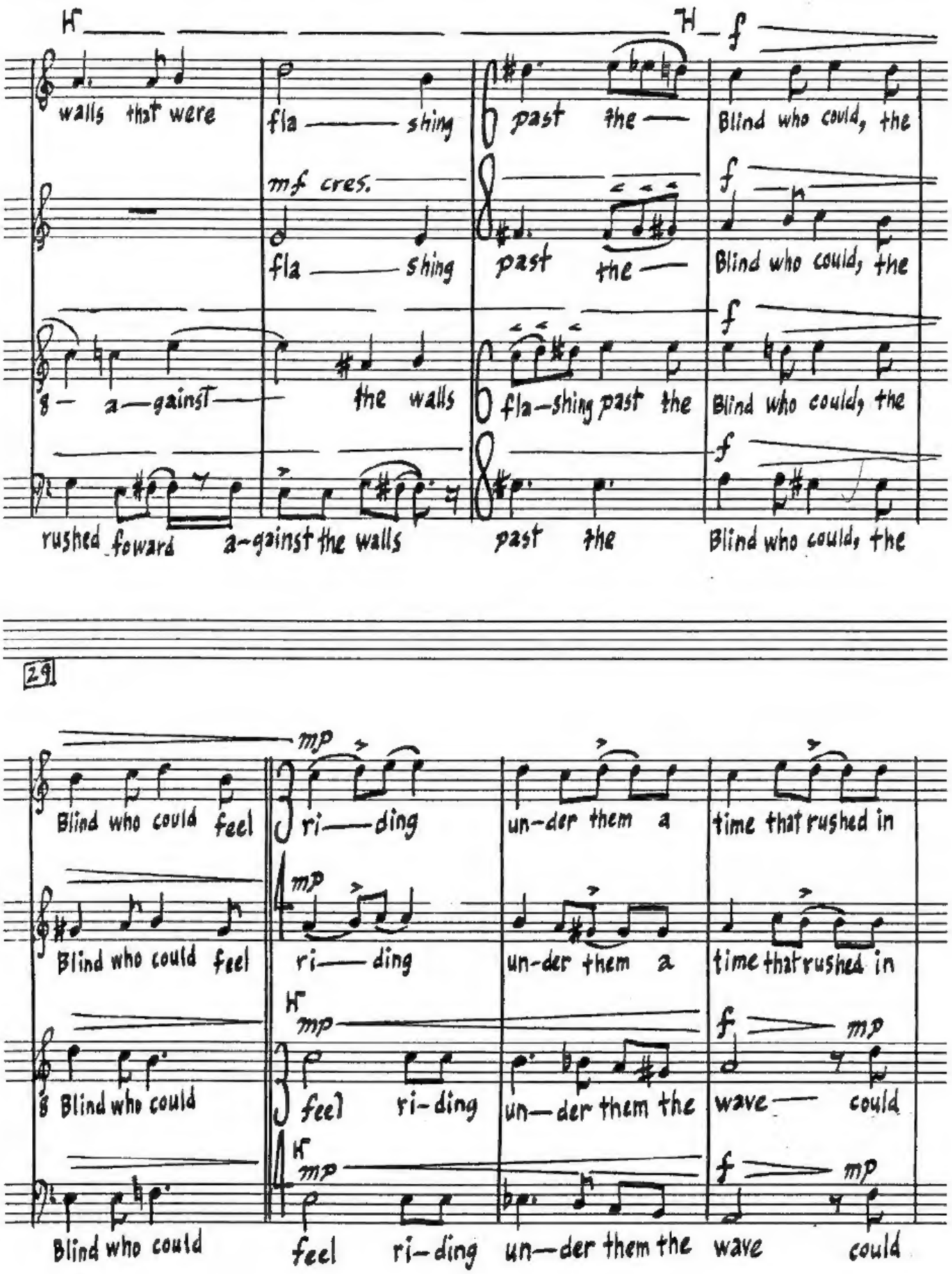
H — H — f

walls that were fla — shing past the — Blind who could, the

mf cres. — f

fla — shing past the — Blind who could, the

f



8 — a — gainst — the walls fla — shing past the Blind who could, the

f

rushed foward a-gainst the walls past the Blind who could, the

29

mp

Blind who could feel ri — ding un-der them a time that rushed in

mp

Blind who could feel ri — ding un-der them a time that rushed in

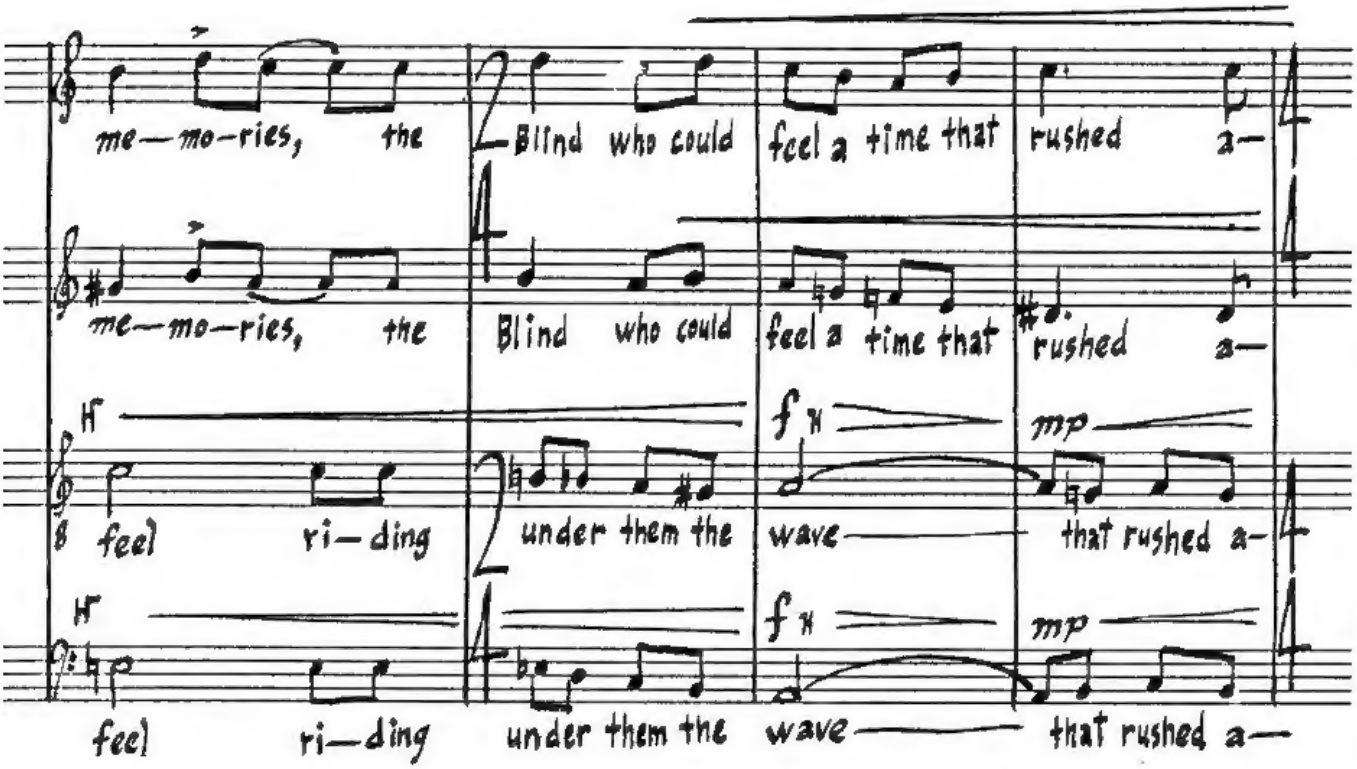
H mp — f — mp

8 Blind who could feel ri-ding un — der them the wave — could

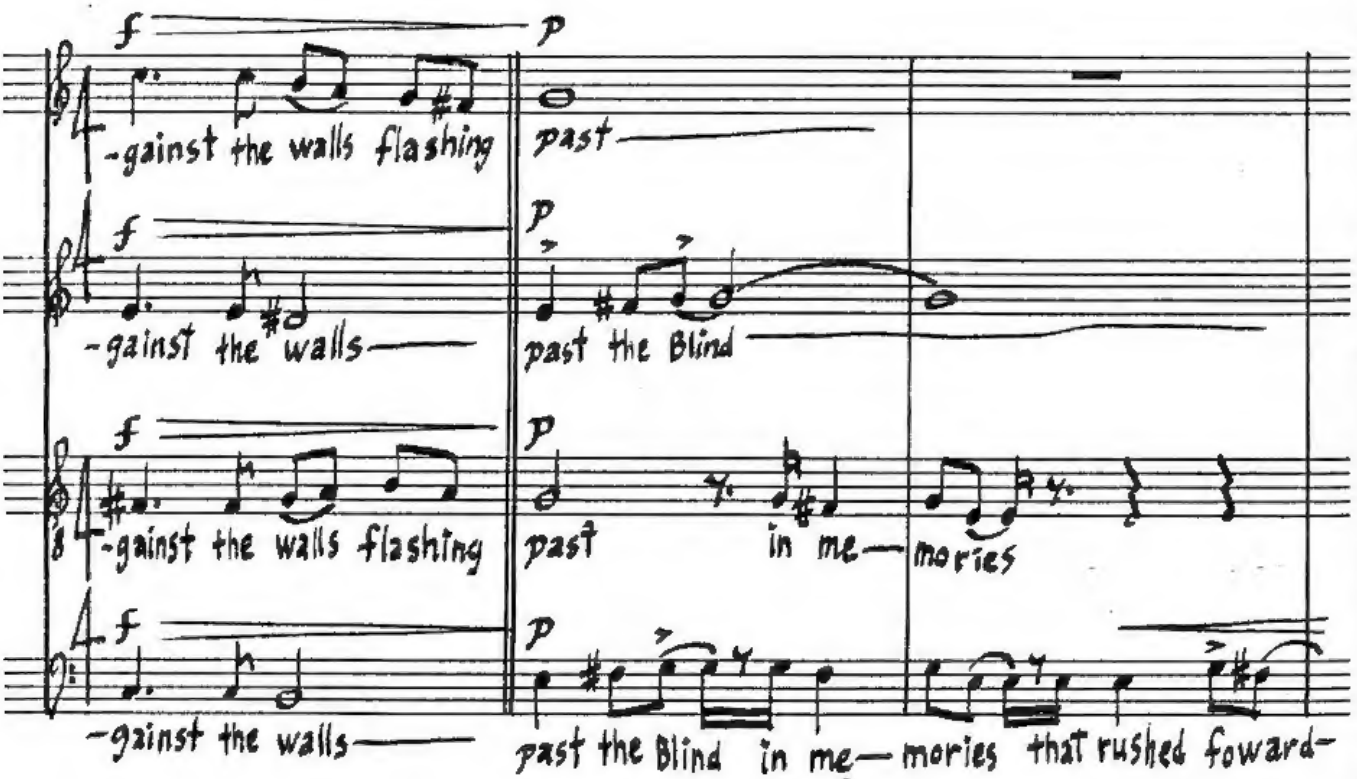
H mp — f — mp

Blind who could feel ri-ding un — der them the wave could

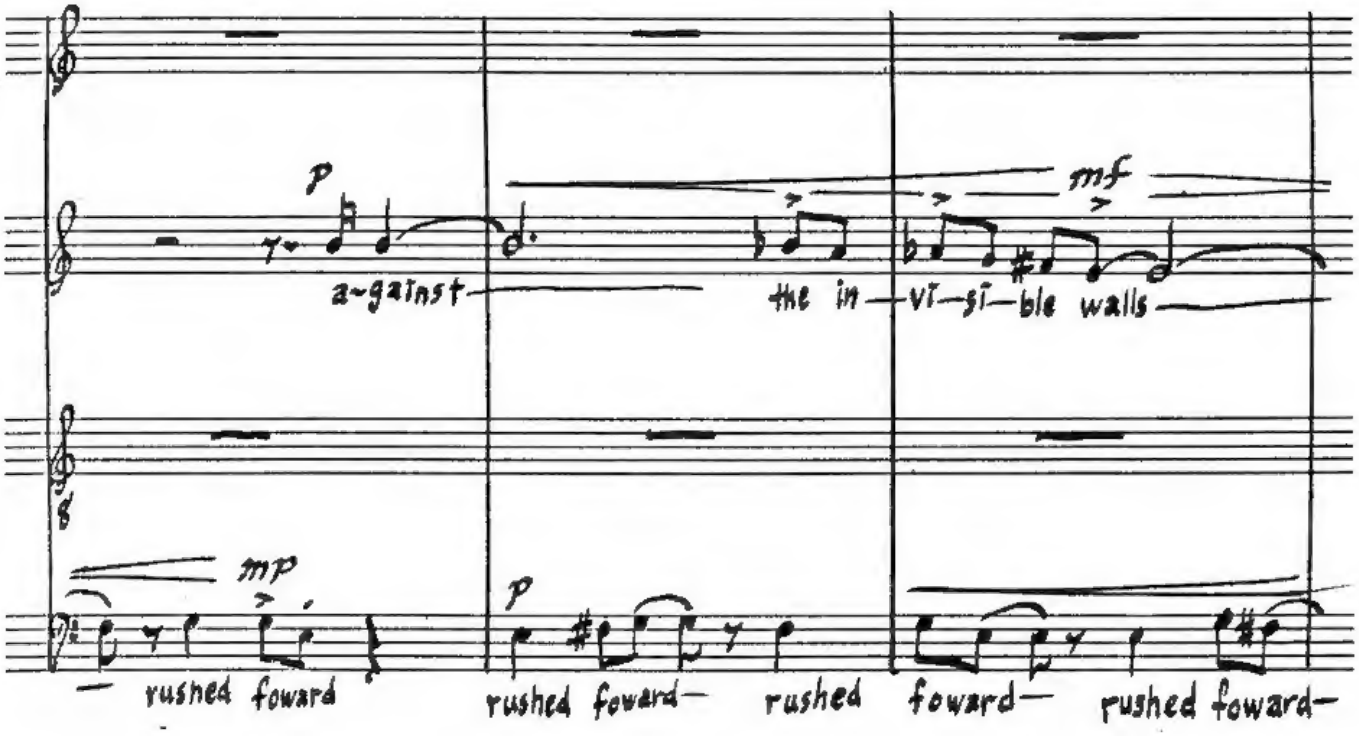
33 (♩=132)


me—mo—ries, the
Blind who could
feel a time that
rushed a—
me—mo—ries, the
Blind who could
feel a time that
rushed a—
H
feel
ri—ding
under them the
wave
that rushed a—
H
feel
ri—ding
under them the
wave
that rushed a—

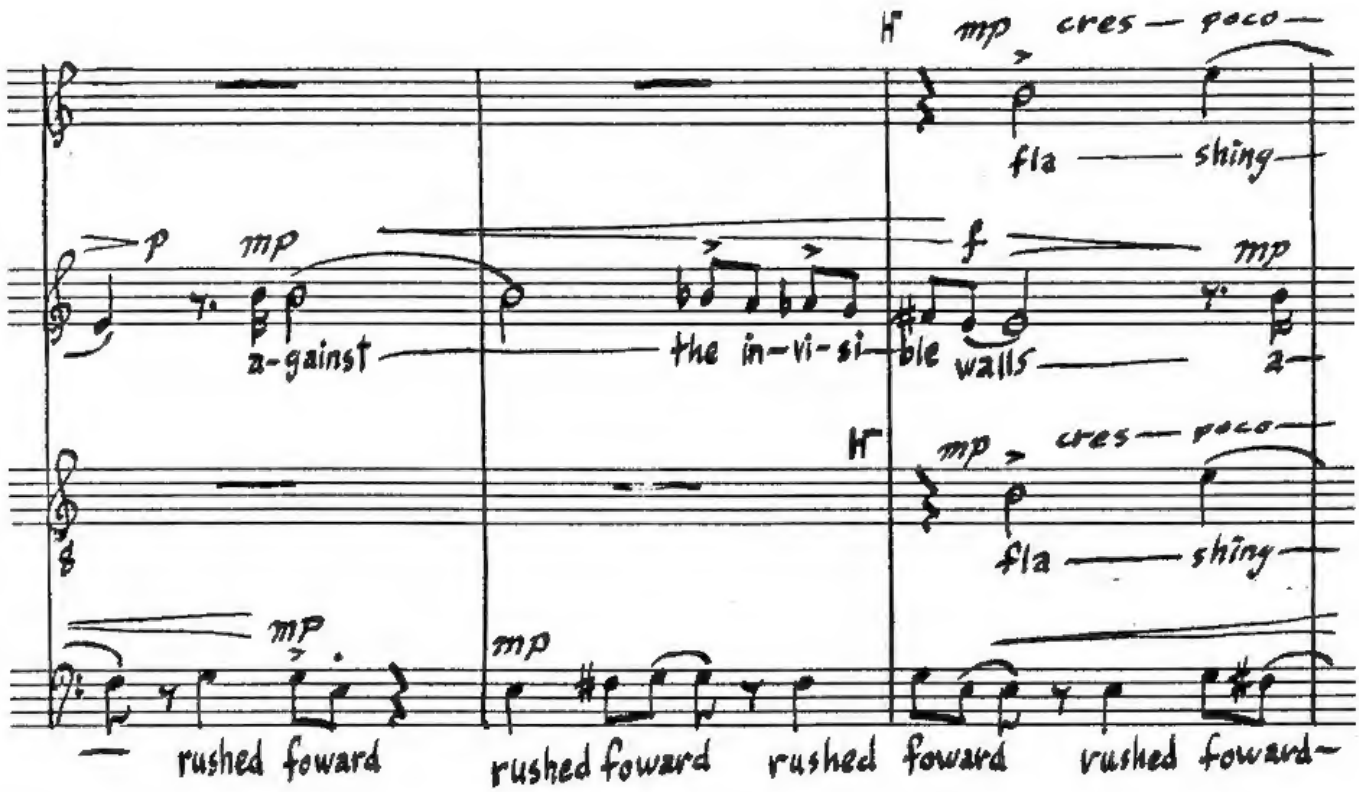
37

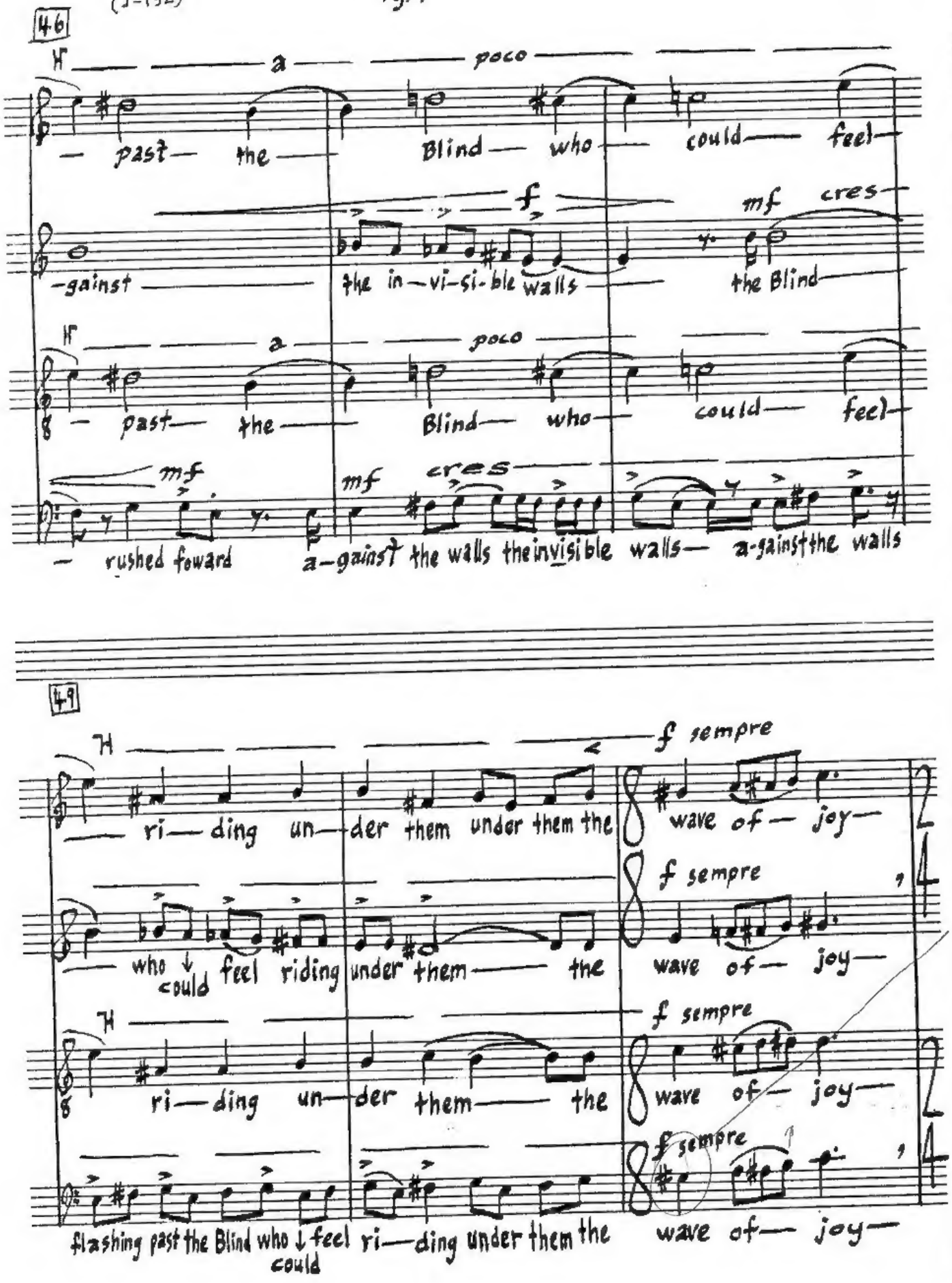

-gainst the walls flashing
past
-gainst the walls
past the Blind
-gainst the walls flashing
past
in me—
mories
-gainst the walls
past the Blind
in me—
mories
that rushed foward-

40 (♩=132)

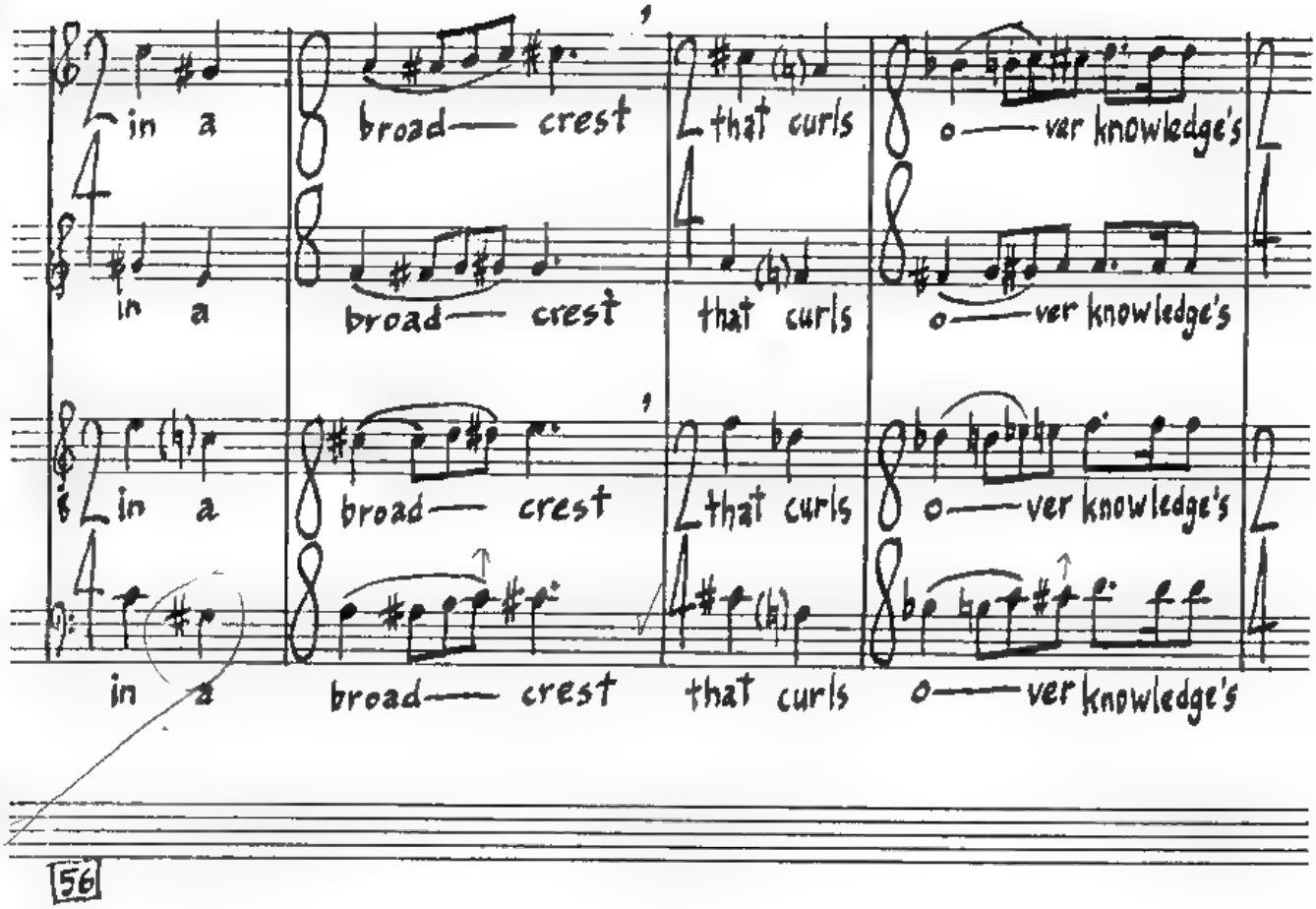

p
mf
a-gainst
the in — vi — si — ble walls
mp
p
— rushed foward
rushed foward— rushed foward— rushed foward—

43

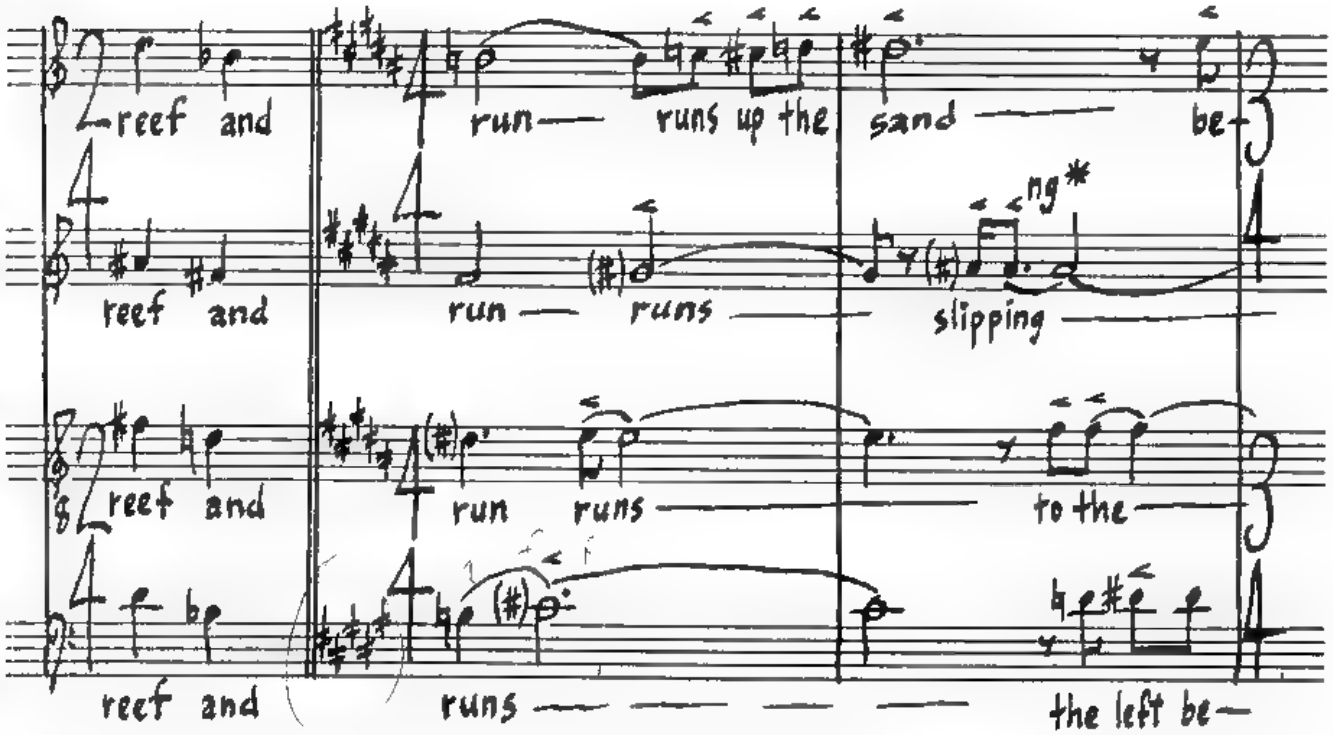

tr mp cres — poco —
fla — shing
p mp
f
mp
a-gainst
the in-vi-si-ble walls
2-
tr mp cres — poco —
fla — shing
mp
mp
— rushed foward
rushed foward rushed foward rushed foward—


(♩=132)
46
H
a
poco
past the Blind who could feel
f
mf cres
against the in-vi-si-ble walls the Blind
H
a
poco
past the Blind who could feel
mf
mf cres
rushed foward a-gainst the walls the invisible walls a-gainst the walls
49
H
f sempre
ri-ding un-der them under them the wave of joy
f sempre
who could feel riding under them the wave of joy
H
f sempre
ri-ding un-der them the wave of joy
f sempre
flashing past the Blind who could feel ri-ding under them the wave of joy

52 (♩=132)

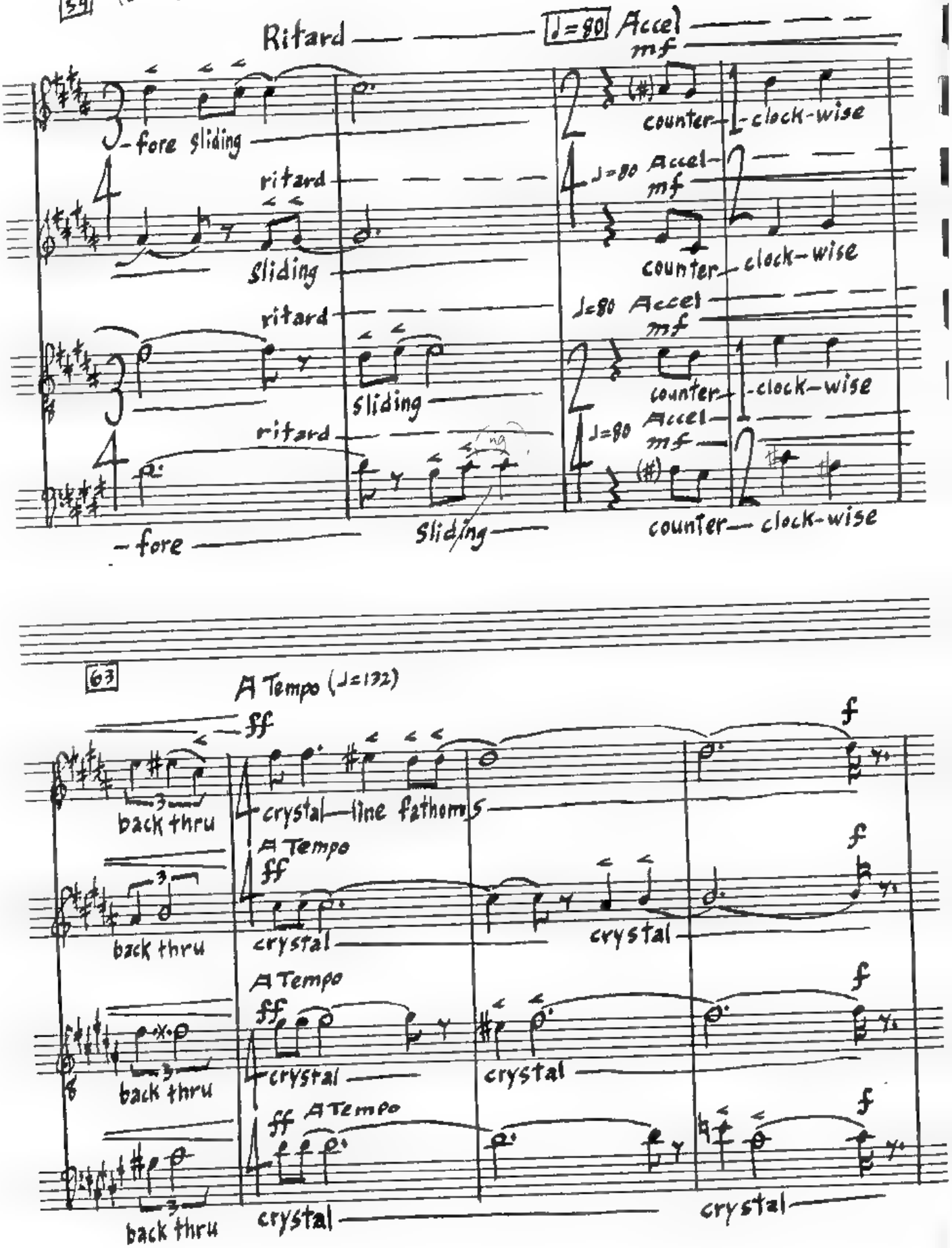


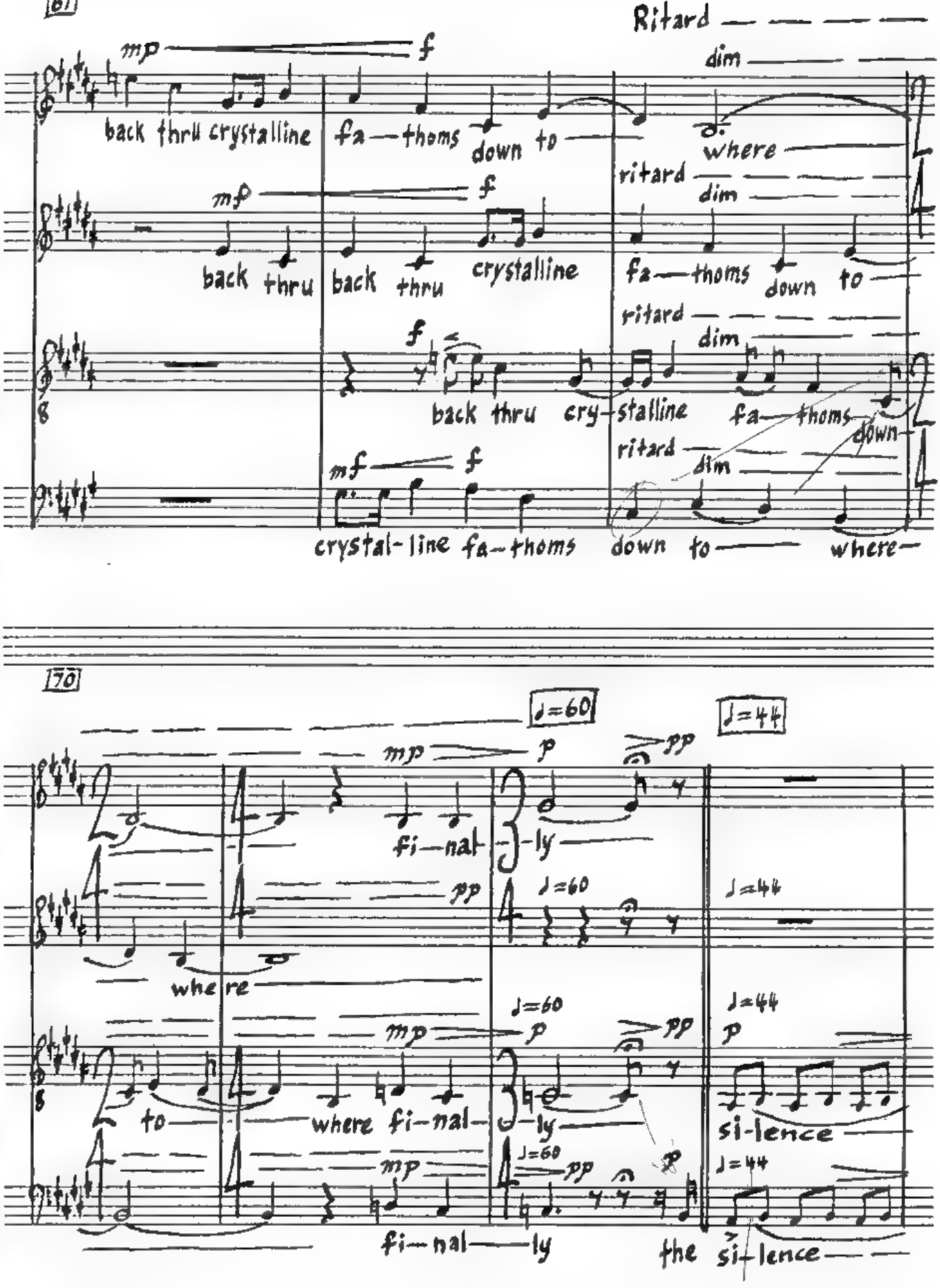
56



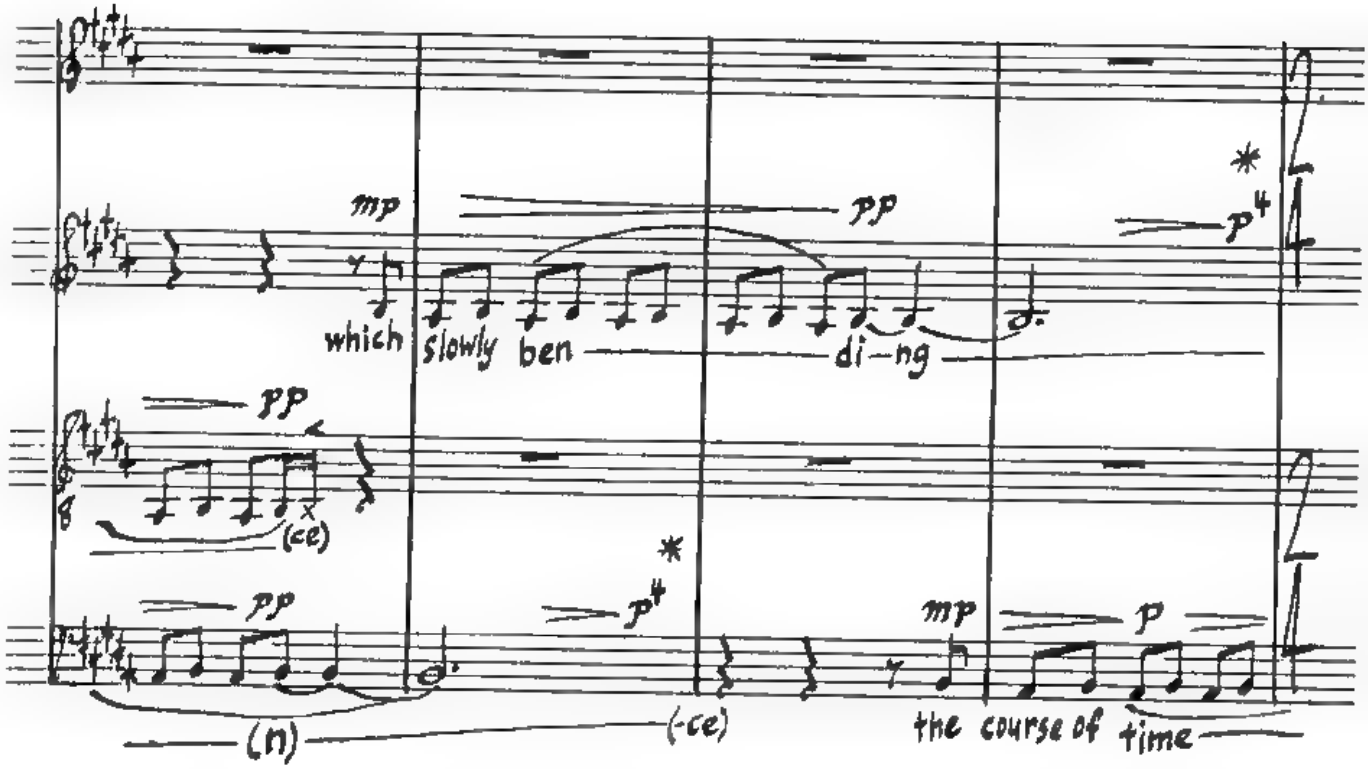
* get to "ng" of "slipping" immediately and keep it forte.

DIAZ TEC 900

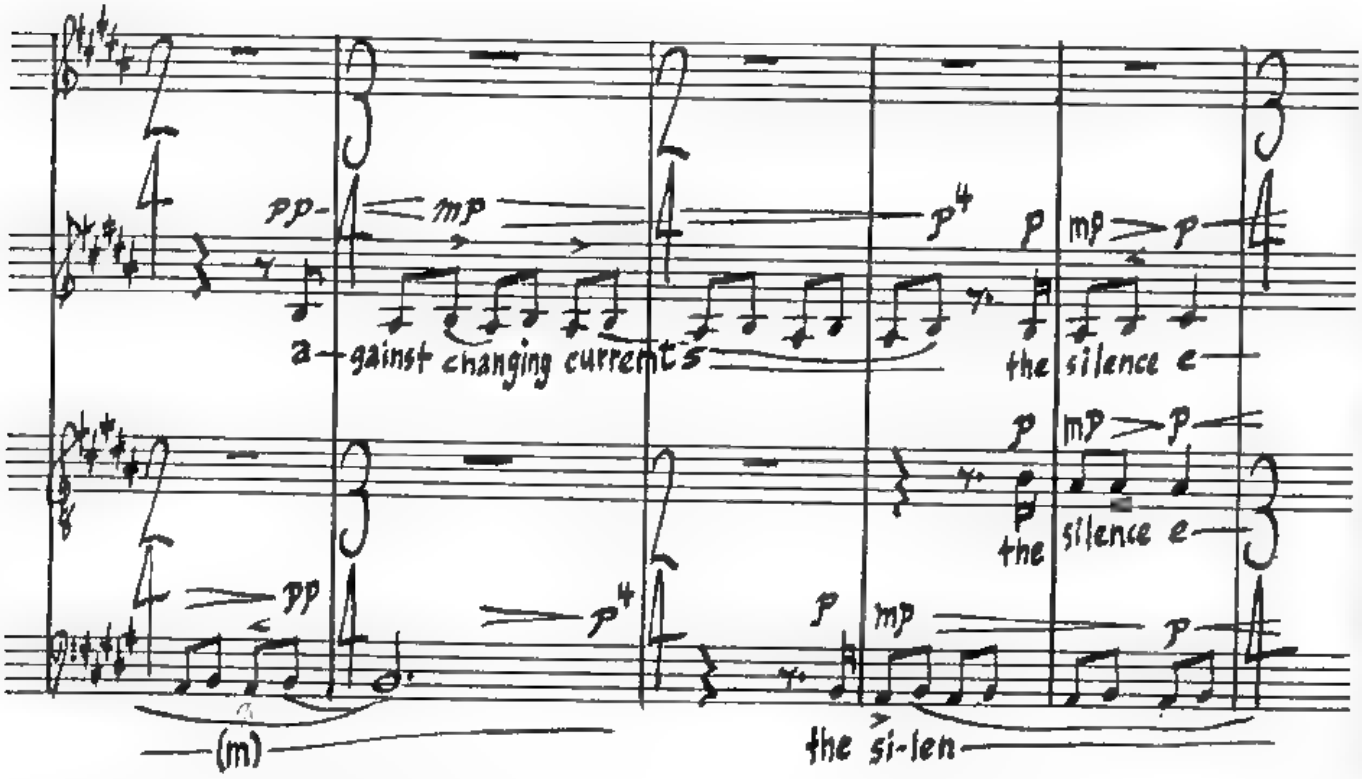

59
(♩=132)
Ritard
♩=80 Accel
mf
-fore sliding
counter
-clock-wise
ritard
sliding
♩=80 Accel
mf
counter
clock-wise
ritard
sliding
♩=80 Accel
mf
counter
-clock-wise
ritard
♩=80 Accel
mf
-fore
Sliding
counter
clock-wise
63
A Tempo (♩=132)
ff
f
back thru
crystal
line fathoms
A Tempo
ff
f
back thru
crystal
crystal
A Tempo
ff
f
back thru
crystal
crystal
ff A Tempo
f
back thru
crystal
crystal


67
(♩=132)
Ritard
mp
f
dim
back thru crystalline
fa—thoms down to
where
mf
ritard
back thru back thru crystalline
fa—thoms down to
back thru cry—stalline
fa—thoms down
crystal-line fa—thoms down to where
70
♩=60
♩=44
fi—nal—ly
where
to
where fi—nal—ly
si-lence
fi—nal—ly
the si—lence

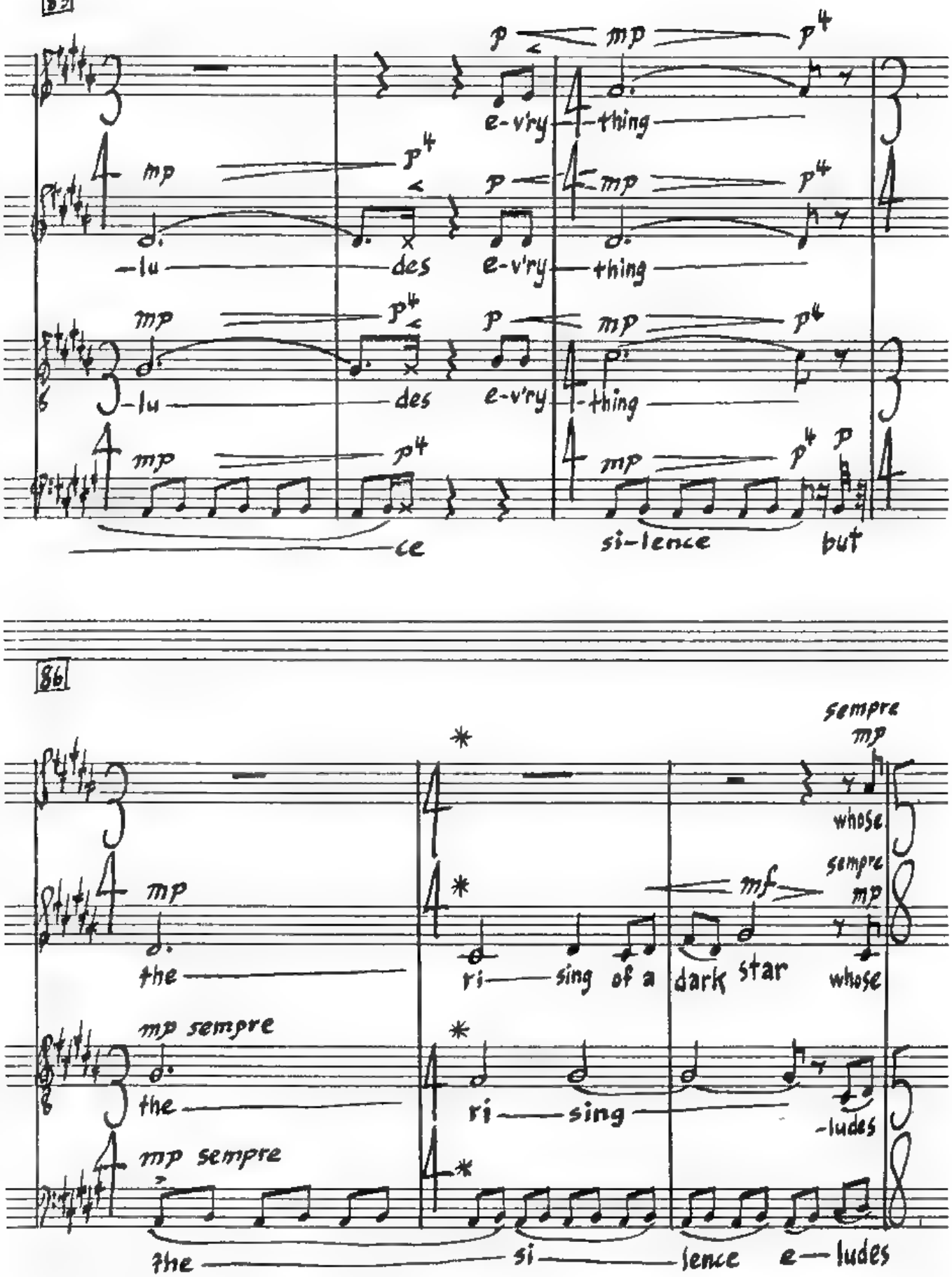
74 (♩=44)



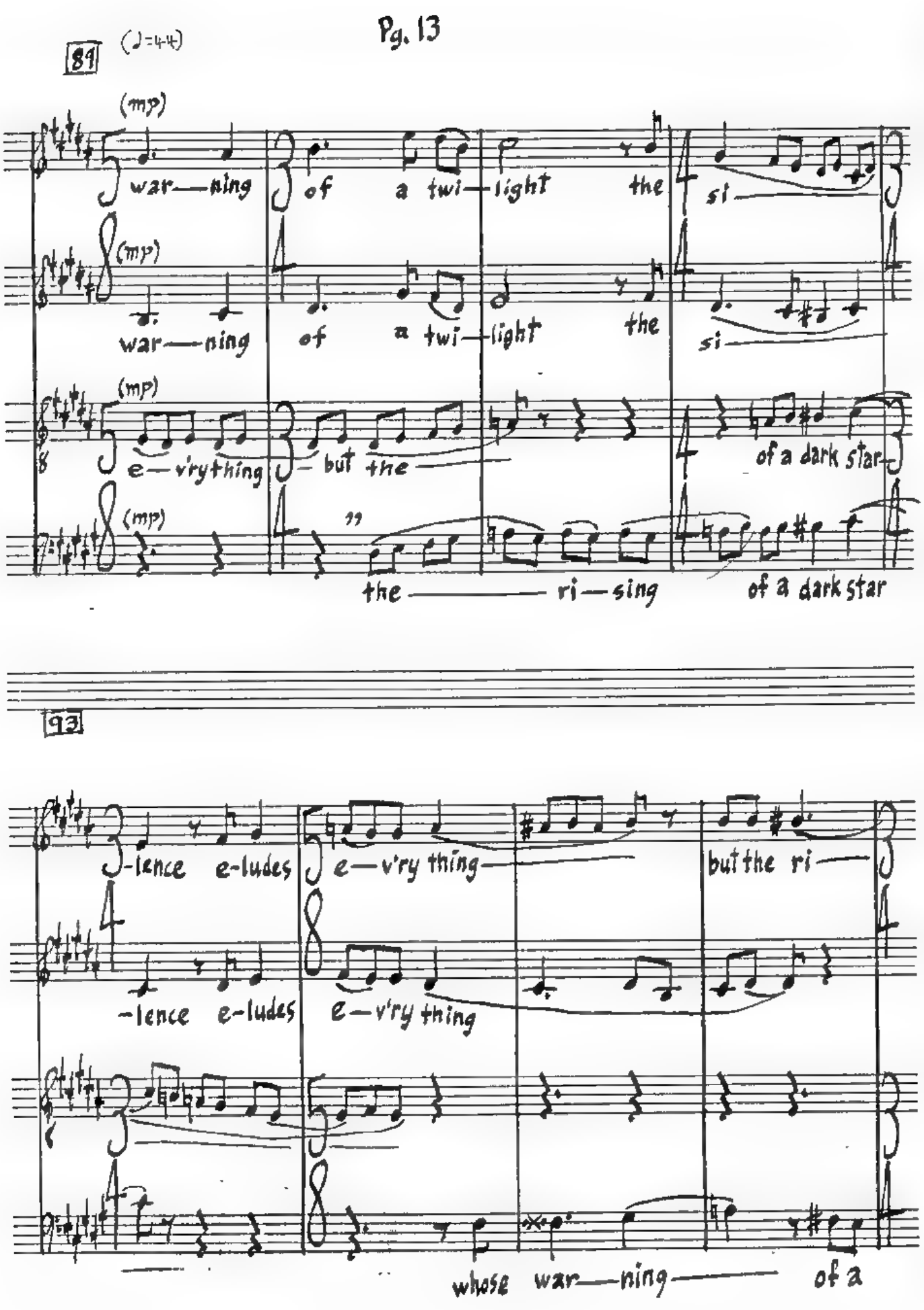
78

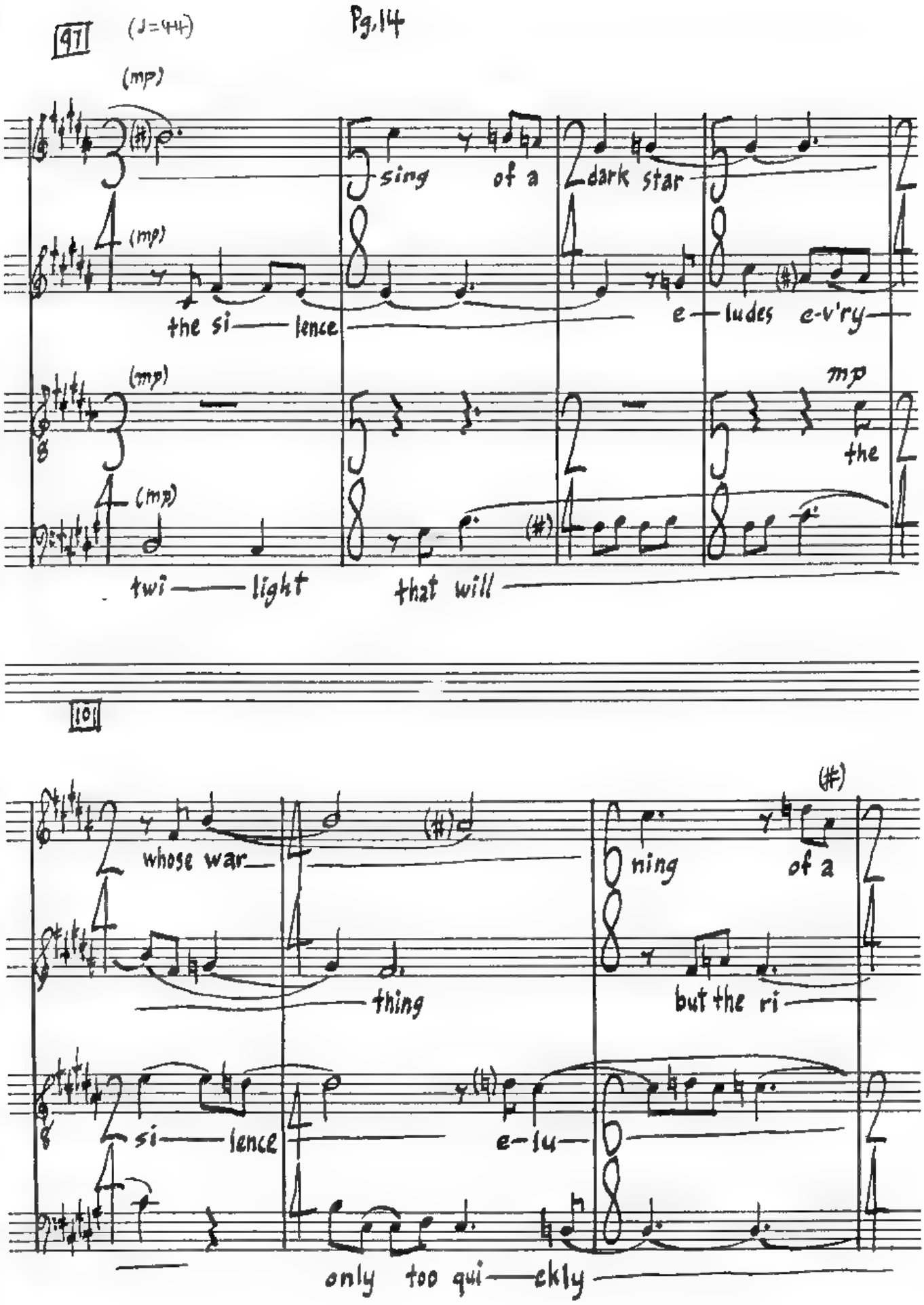


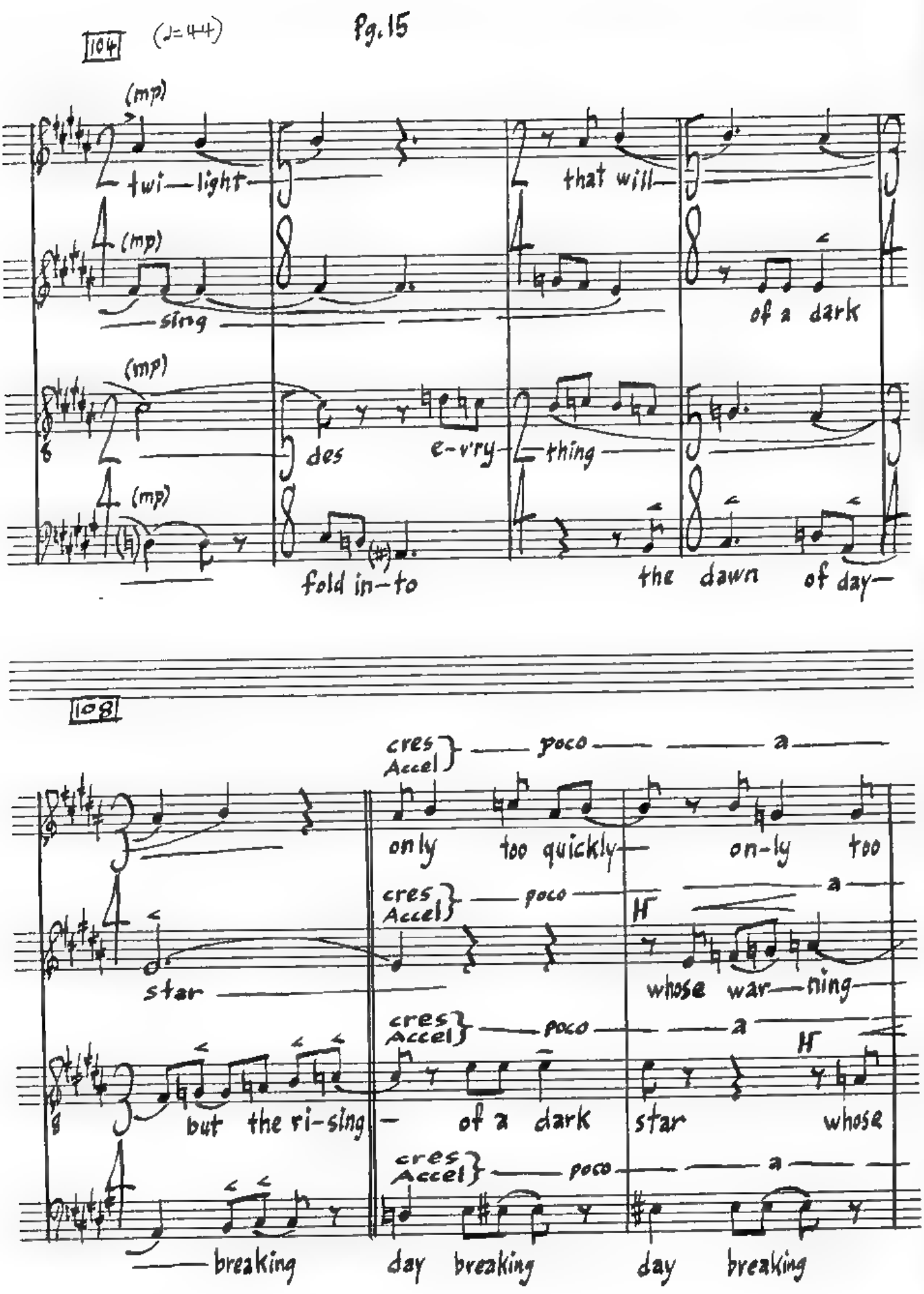
* p⁴ = almost inaudible

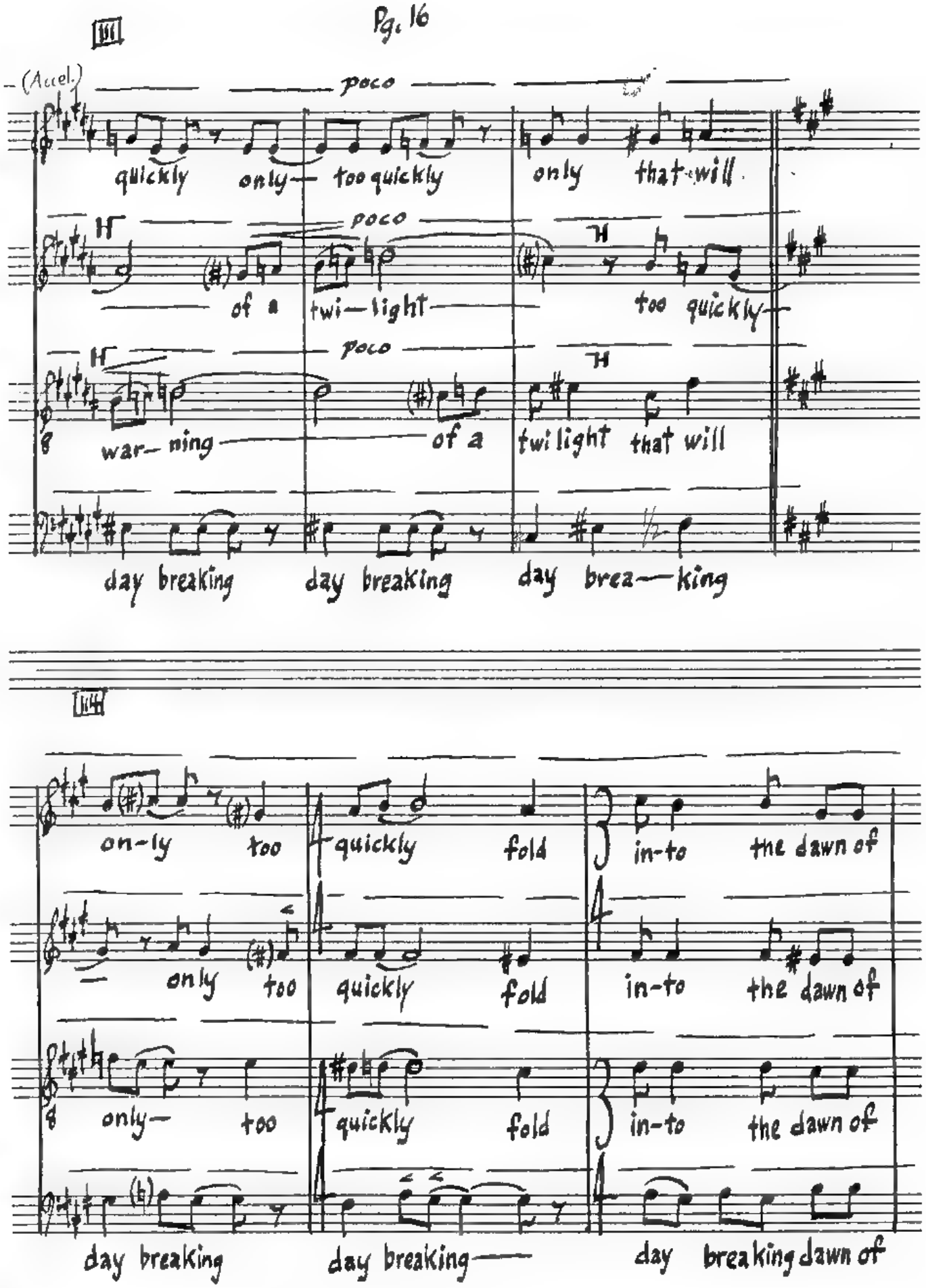


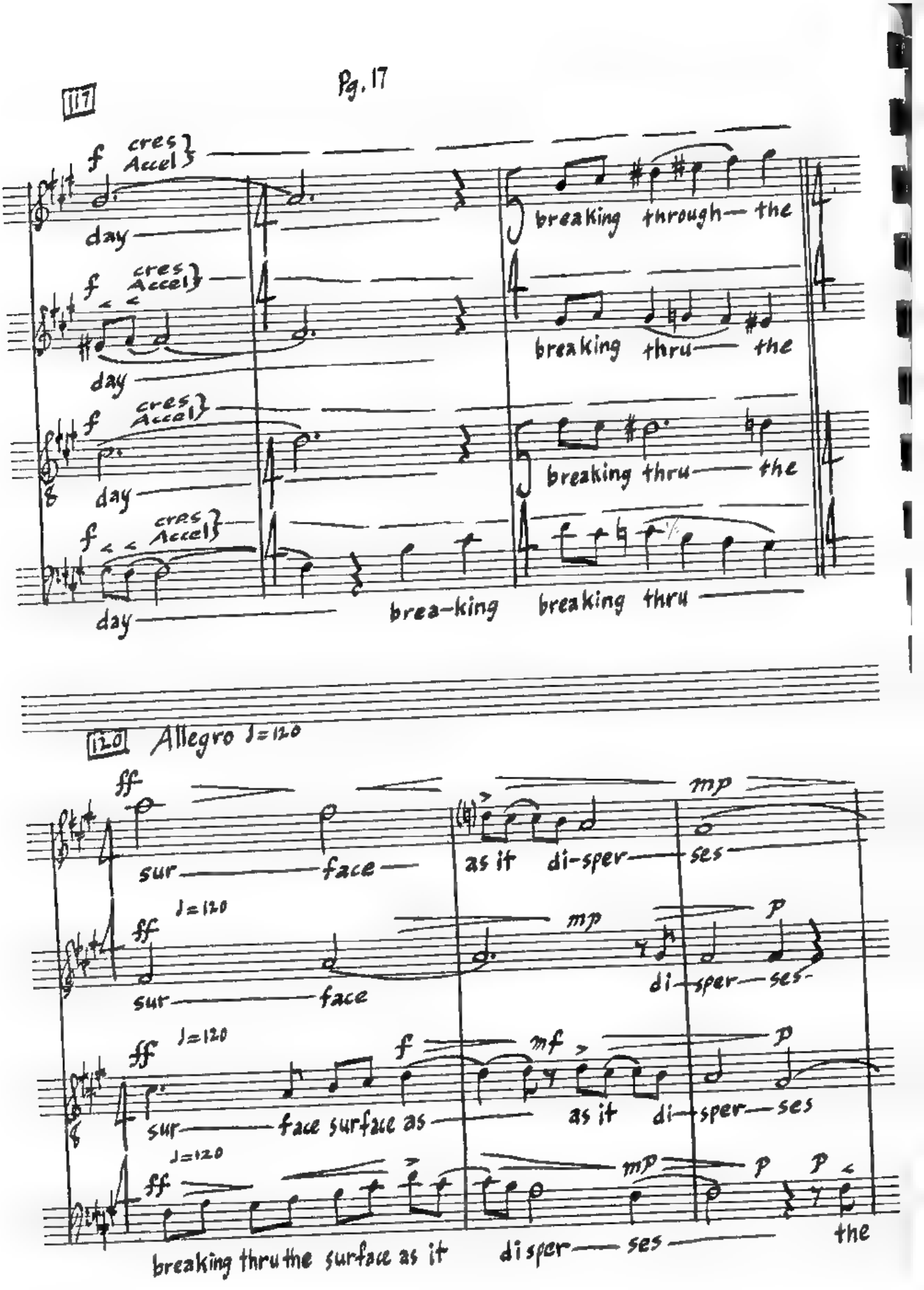
* the attack of new words or sylables = 1st ary; all melismas = 2nd ary in ms. 87-108


89
(♩=44)
(mp)
war—ning of a twi—light the si
war—ning of a twi—light the si
e—v'rything but the
of a dark star
the ri—sing of a dark star
93
-lence e-ludes e—v'ry thing
but the ri
-lence e-ludes e—v'ry thing
whose war—ning of a

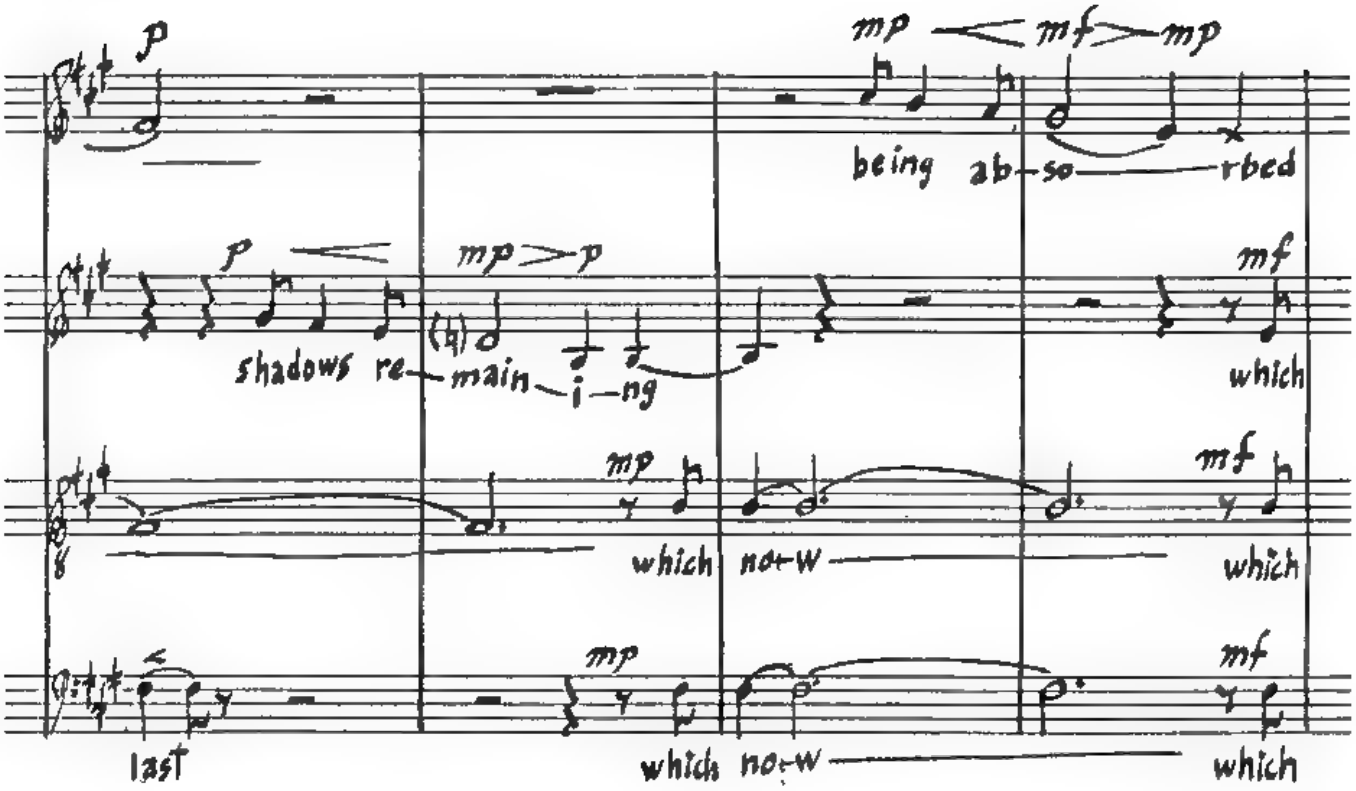

97
(♩=44)
(mp)
sing
of a
dark star
the si — lence
e — ludes e-v'ry
mp
the
twi — light
that will
101
whose war —
thing
ning
of a
but the ri —
si — lence
e — lu —
only too qui — ckly


104
(♩=44)
(mp)
twi—light
that will
sing
of a dark
des
e-v'ry—thing
fold in—to
the dawn of day—
108
cres
Accel
poco
a
only too quickly—
on-ly too
star
H
whose war—ning
but the ri-sing
of a dark
star
whose
breaking
day breaking
day breaking

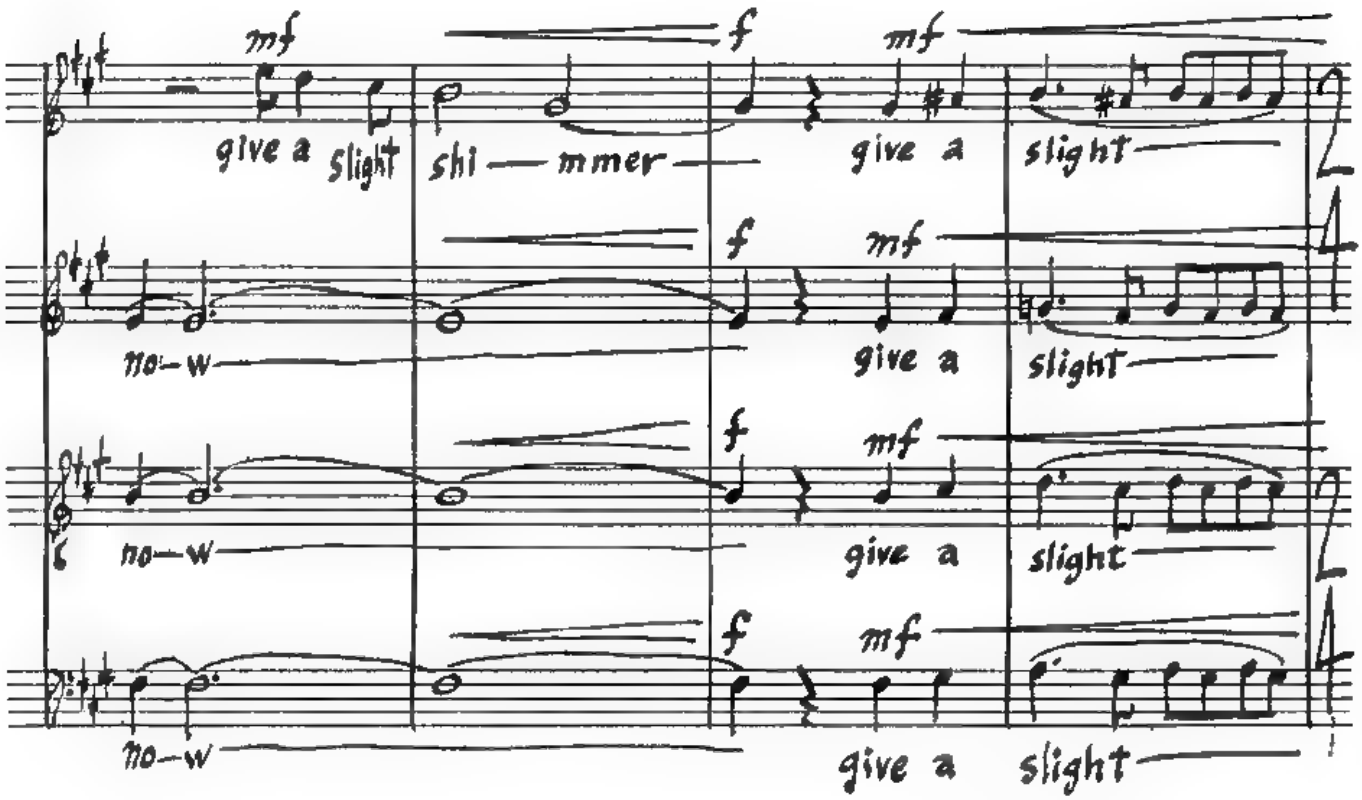

(Accel.)
poco
quickly only too quickly only that will
poco
of a twi-light too quickly
poco
war-ning of a twi light that will
day breaking day breaking day brea-king
only too quickly fold in-to the dawn of
only too quickly fold in-to the dawn of
only too quickly fold in-to the dawn of
day breaking day breaking day breaking dawn of

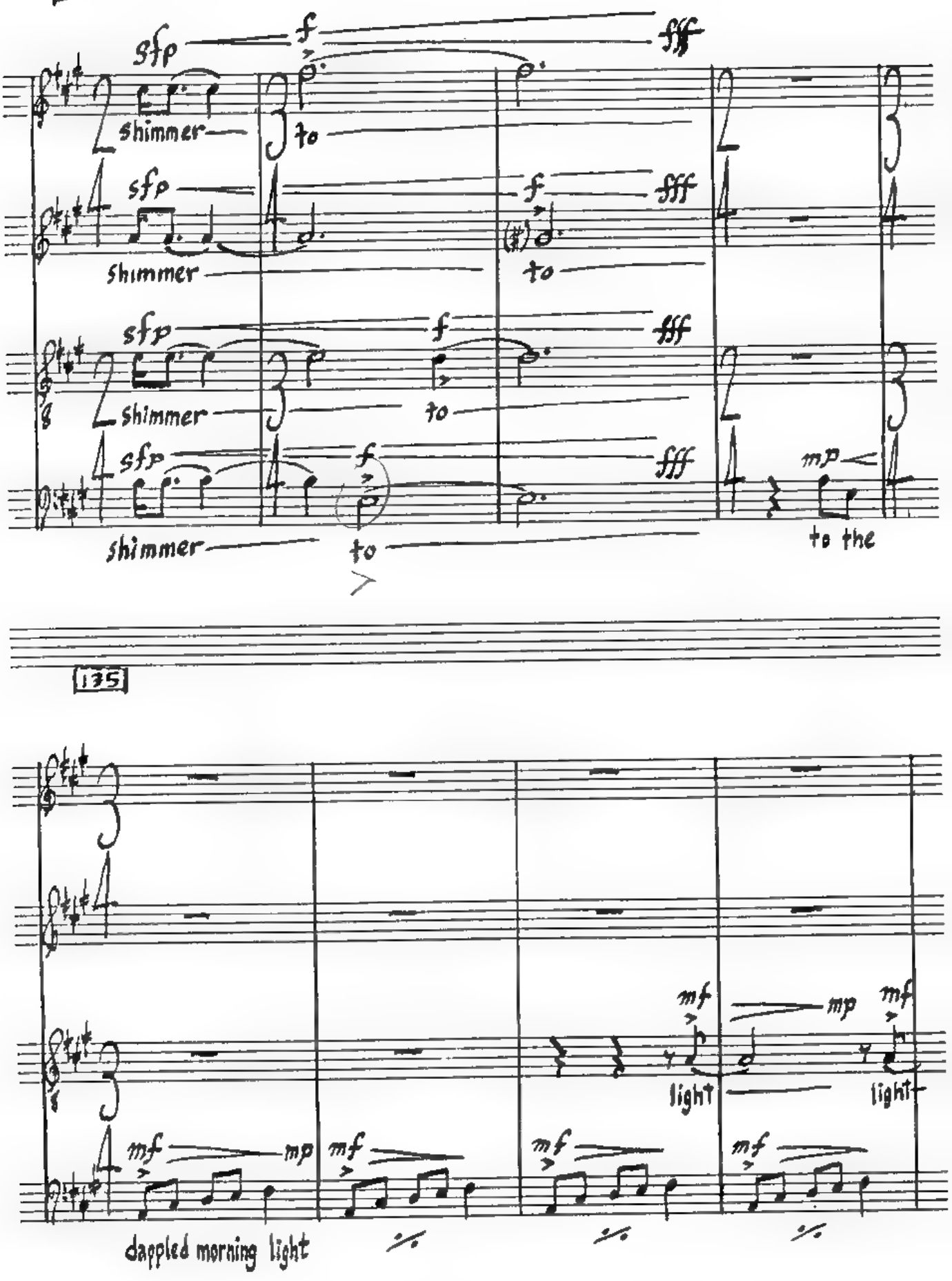

117
f cres Accel
day
breaking through the
f cres Accel
day
breaking thru the
f cres Accel
day
breaking thru the
f cres Accel
day
brea-king breaking thru
120 Allegro ♩=120
ff
sur face as it di-sper ses
mp
♩=120
ff
sur face
mp
di-sper ses
p
♩=120
ff
sur face surface as
f
mf
as it di-sper ses
p
♩=120
ff
breaking thru the surface as it
mp
disper ses
p
p
the

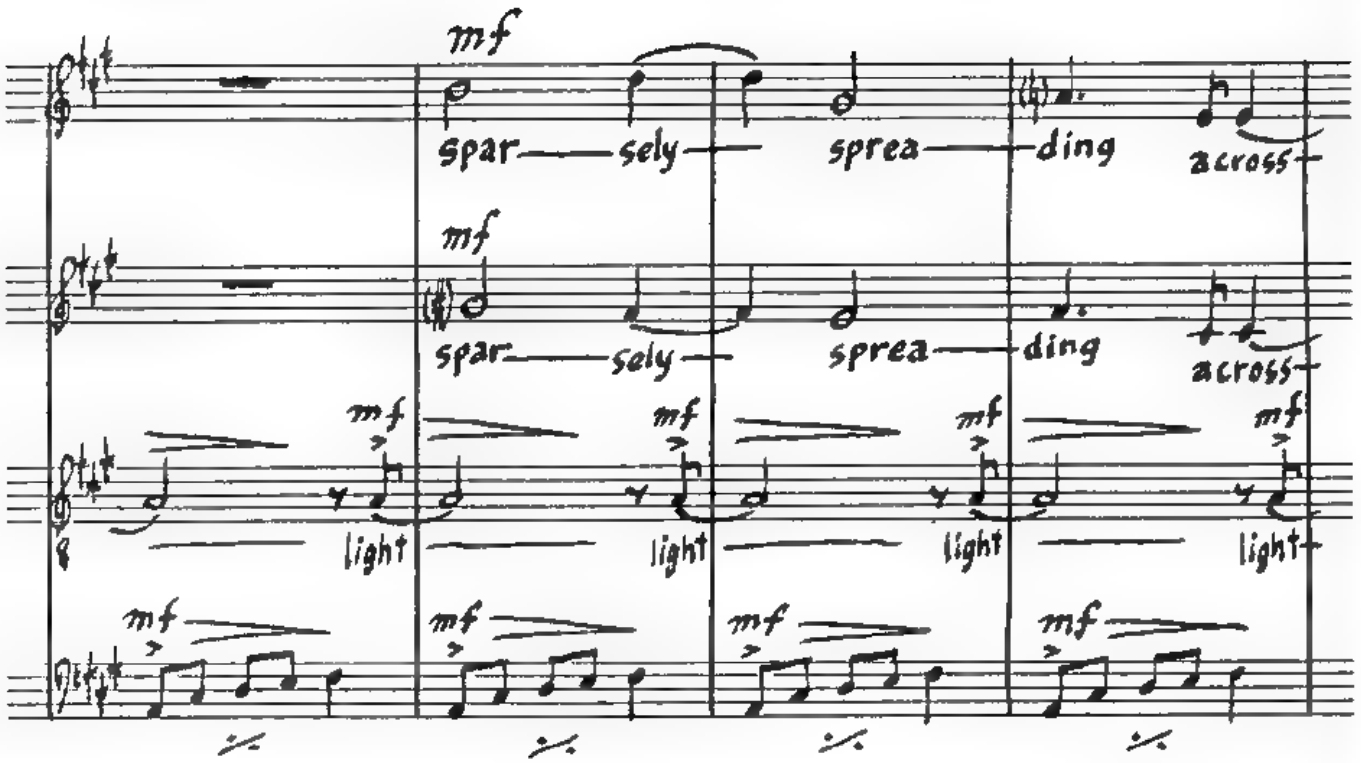
123 (♩=120)

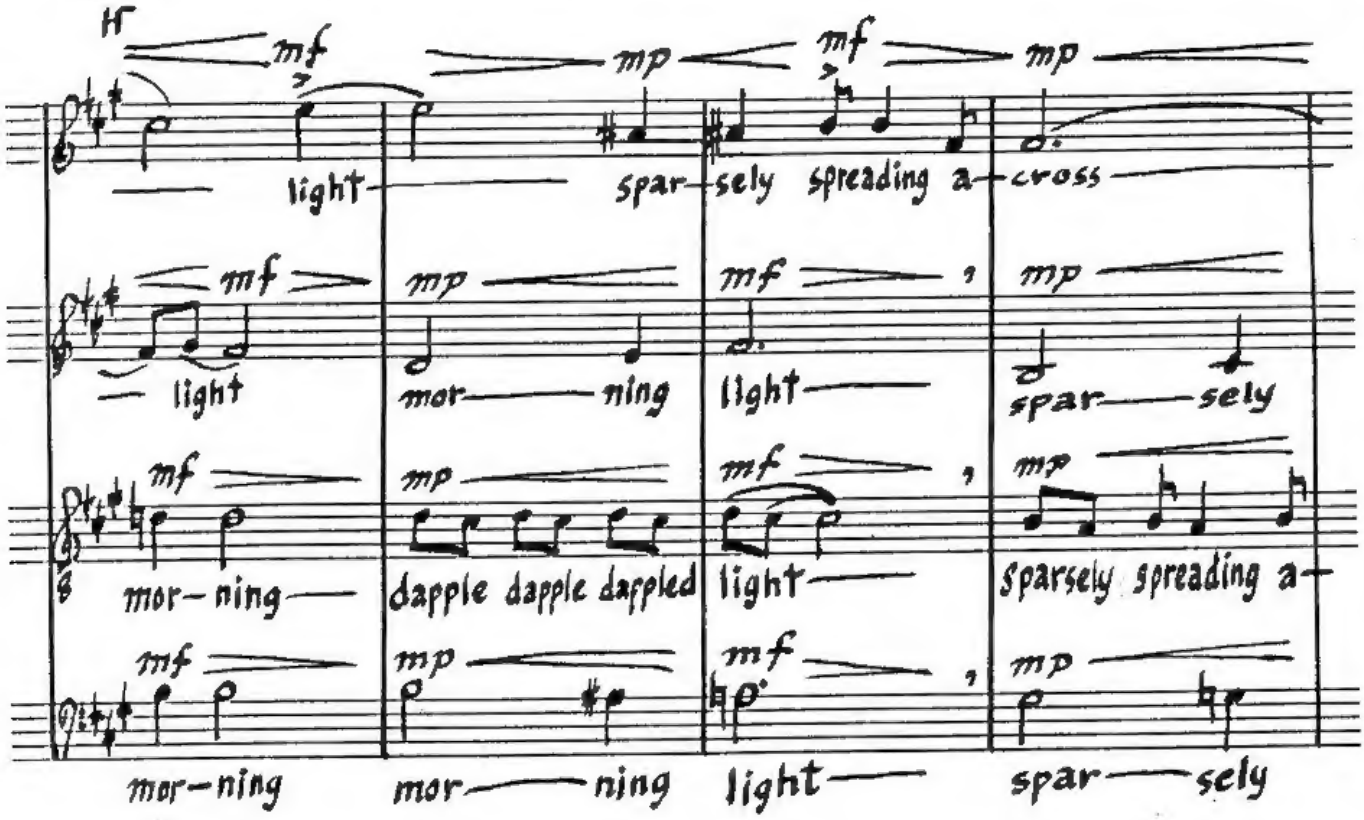

p
mp
mf
mp
being ab-so-rbed
p
mp>p
mf
shadows re-main-i-ng
which
mp
mf
which
now
which
mp
mf
last
which
now
which

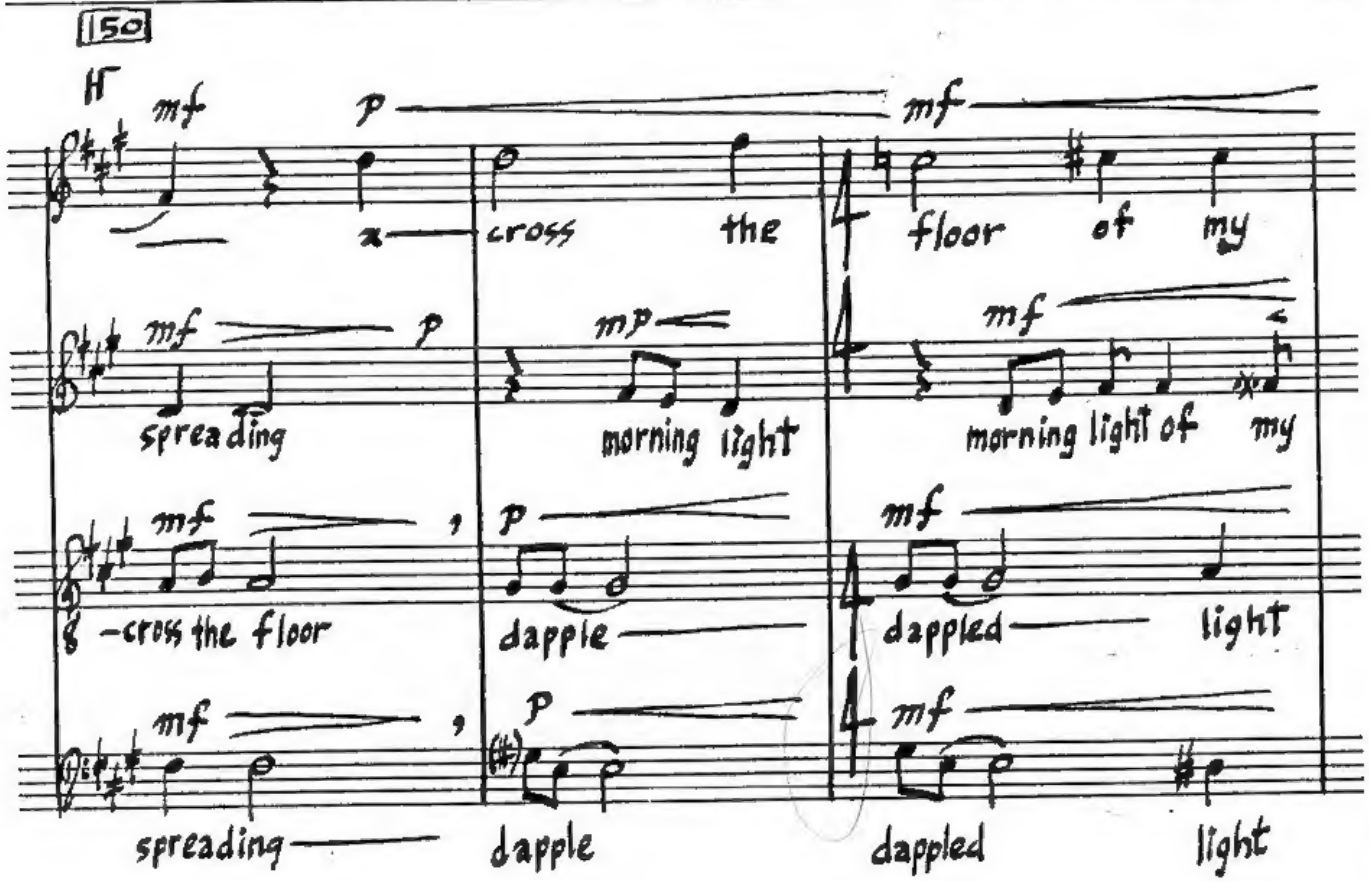
127

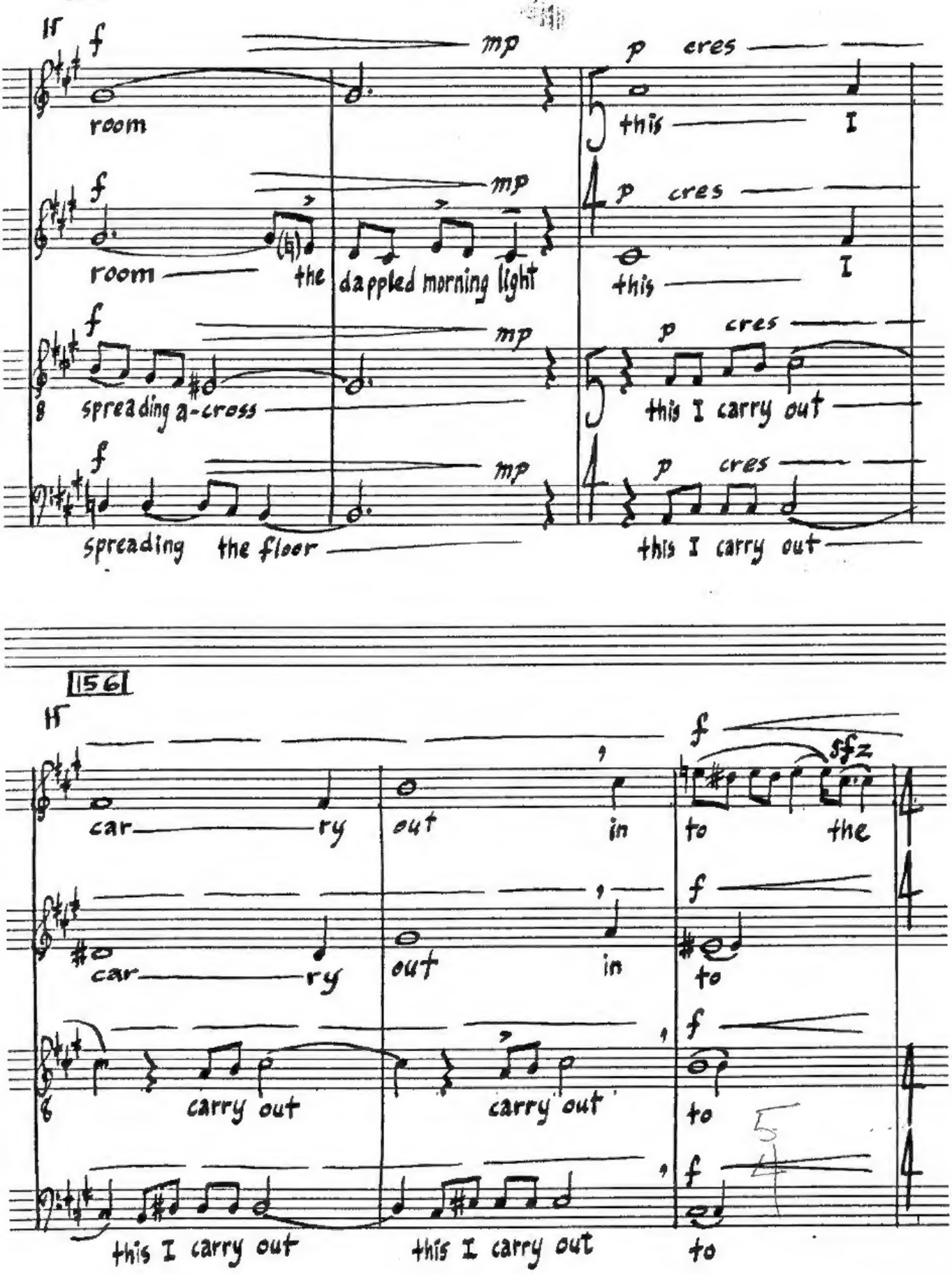

mf
f
mf
give a slight
shi-mmer
give a
slight
now
f
mf
give a
slight
now
f
mf
give a
slight
now
f
mf
give a
slight

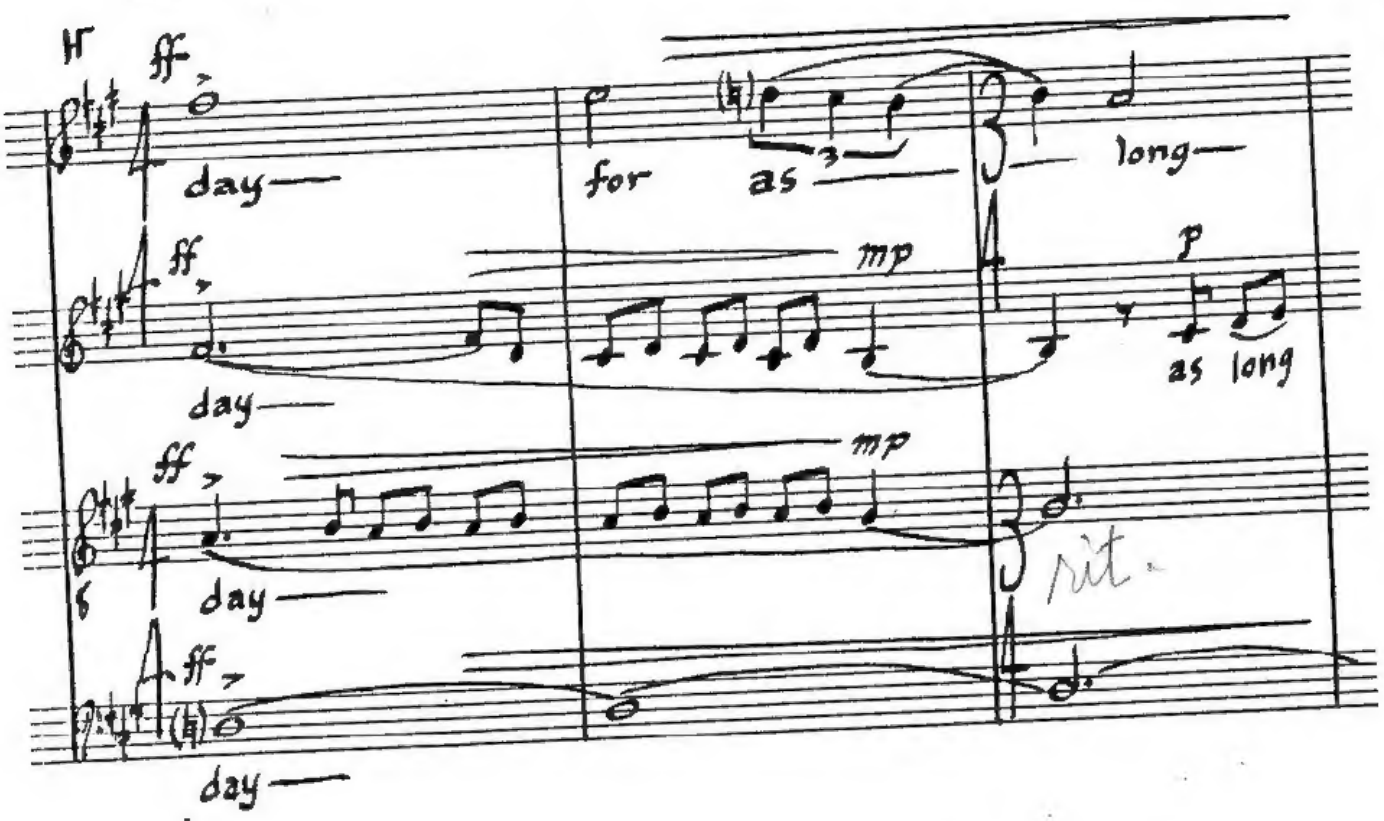

131
(♩=120)
sfp
f
fff
shimmer
to
mp
to the
135
mf
mp
light
dappled morning light

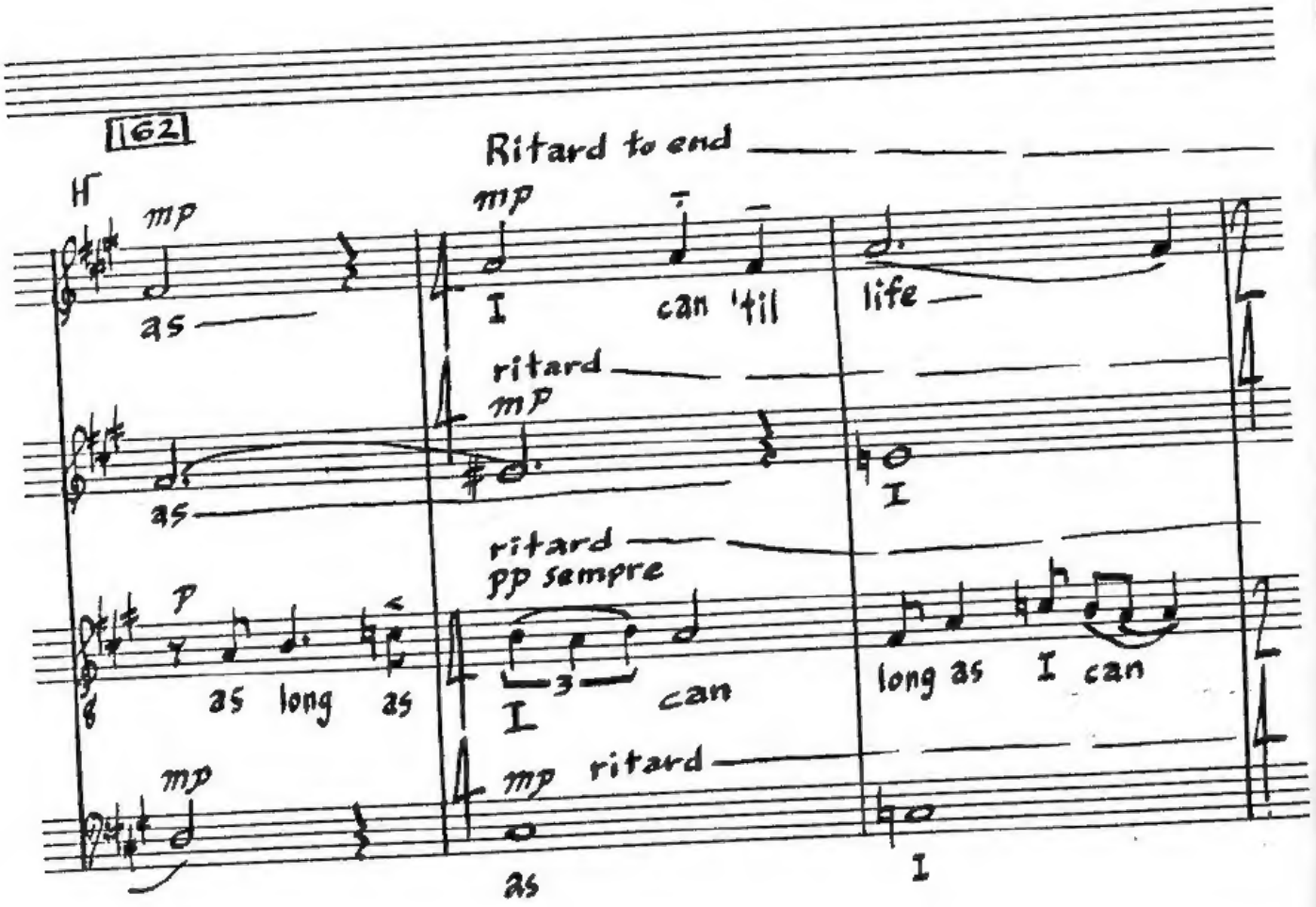

134 (♩=120)
mf
spar sely sprea ding across
light
143
f
H
mp
da ppled
morning light
morning morning morning
a-cross the
dappled morning light

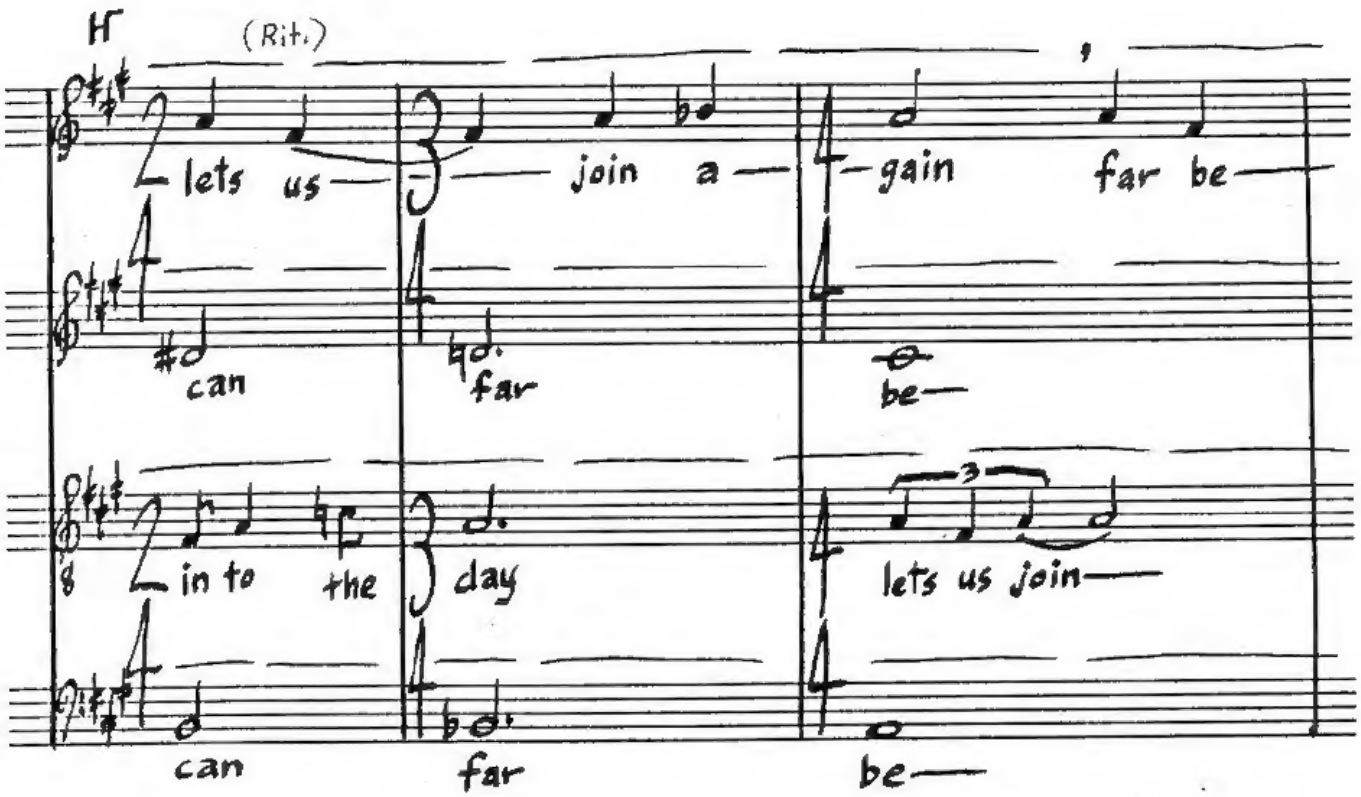

146
(♩=120)
H
mf
mp
light
spar sely spreading a cross
light
mor ning
light
spar sely
mor ning
dapple dapple dappled
light
sparsely spreading a
mor ning
mor ning
light
spar sely

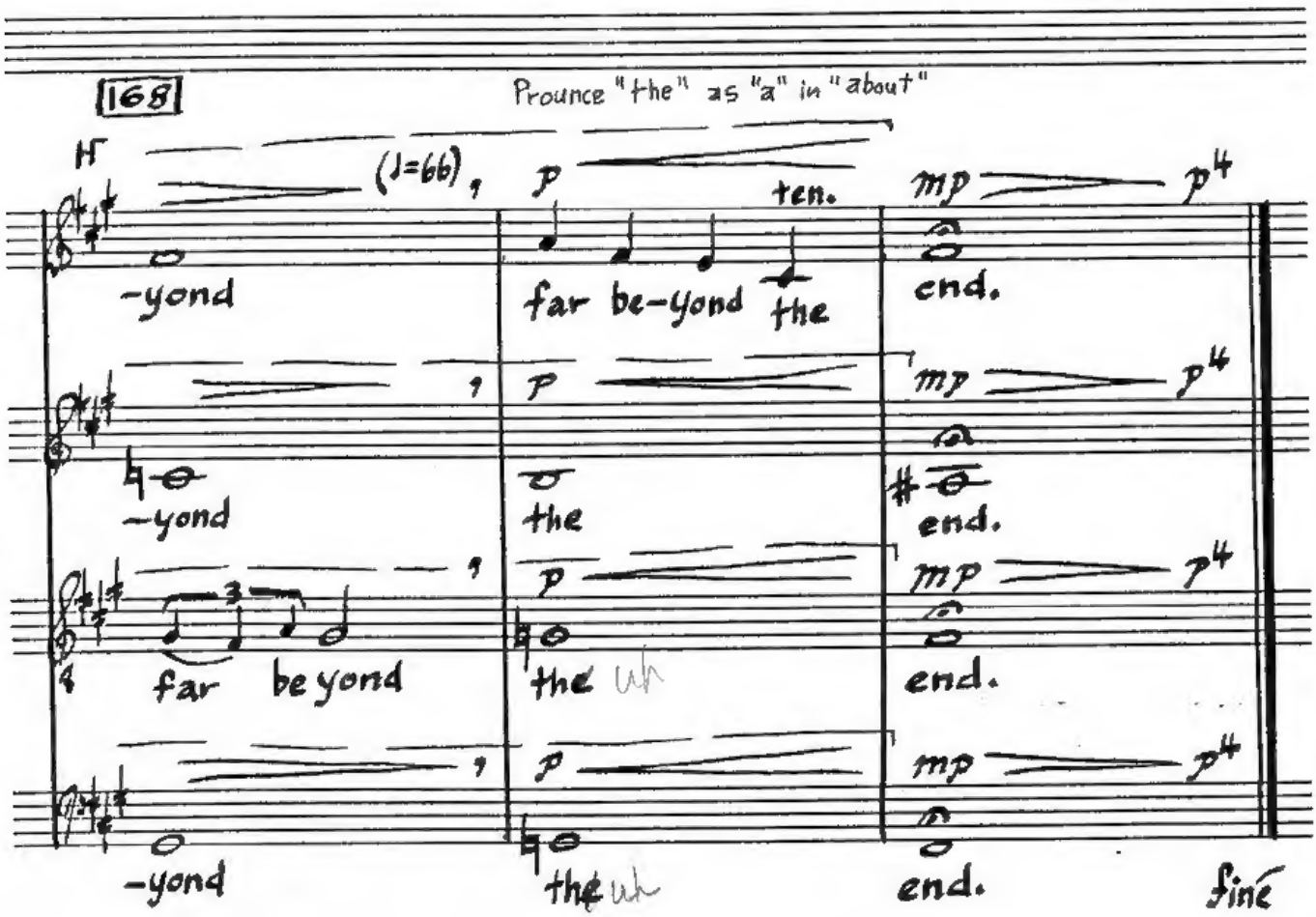

150
H
mf
p
x
cross the
floor of my
spreading
morning light
morning light of my
cross the floor
dapple
dappled
light
spreading
dapple
dappled
light


153
(♩=120)
H
f
mp
p cres
room
this I
room the dappled morning light
this I
spreading a-cross
this I carry out
spreading the floor
this I carry out
156
H
f
sfz
car ry out in to the
car ry out in to
carry out carry out to
this I carry out this I carry out to


159 (♩=120)
Hr
ff
day
for
as
long
mp
p
as long
rit.


162
Ritard to end
Hr
mp
as
I
can 'til
life
ritard
pp sempre
long as I can
ritard


65
Hr
(Rit.)
lets us join a gain far be
can far be
in to the day lets us join
can far be


168
Prounce "the" as "a" in "about"
Hr
(♩=66)
p
ten.
mp
p4
-yond far be-yond the end.
-yond the end.
far be yond the end.
-yond the end. fine